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THE HINDU
INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2022

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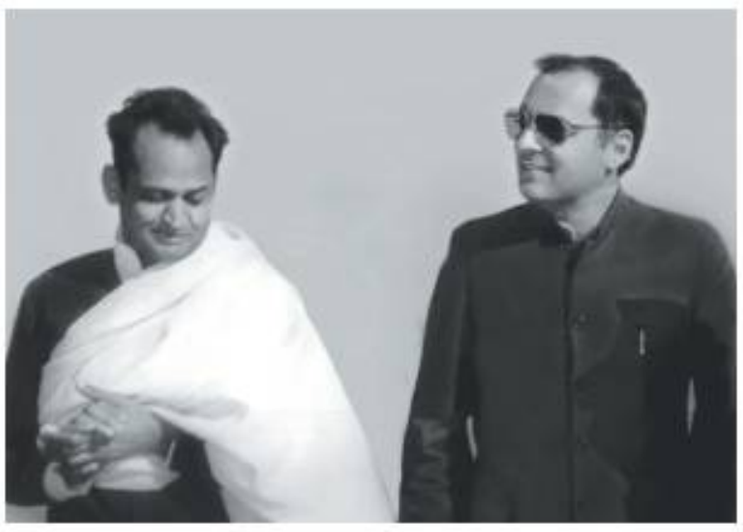
Government of Rajasthan



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My respectful tributes to Shri Rajiv Gandhi on his 78th birth anniversary."

ASHOK GEHLOT
Chief Minister, Rajasthan

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NEARBY

HC fiat to UIDAI on Aadhaar details

BENGALURU

The HC has directed the UIDAI to furnish information and documents submitted for securing Aadhaar by 12 Bangladesh nationals, some of whom are already convicted in a gang rape case, and some facing trial in human trafficking and illegal immigration cases before a trial court in the city.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

Panchamasali quota: HC restrains panel

BENGALURU

The HC has restrained a High-Level Committee from proceeding at present on the issue of whether Panchamasali Lingayat sub-sect — presently in the Category 3B of the caste-based reservation list — can be included in Category 2A of the list.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 6

H1N1 cases on the rise again in Karnataka

BENGALURU

Along with a host of viral and vector-borne ailments, the State is also under the grip of H1N1 influenza. Last year, when the second wave of COVID-19 had overwhelmed the State's infrastructure, only 13 H1N1 cases were reported. However, this year cases have shot up to 409 in the first eight months itself.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 4

CBI searches Delhi Dy. CM's premises in excise policy case

Those doing good work being harassed, says Sisodia amid searches at 31 places

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Amid the ongoing political tussle between the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Friday searched 31 locations, including the premises of Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, in connection with a case alleging irregularities in the State government's now-withdrawn excise policy.

The CBI searches triggered a war of words. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said it was "shameful" that the Centre had sent the agency after Mr. Sisodia just hours after *The New York Times* had published his photograph on its front page, appreciating Delhi's education model. "We welcome the CBI with open arms...there have been raids and investigations against us earlier too, nothing came out of them. We'll come out clear this time, too," he said.

Real face out: Thakur

Targeting the AAP, which has been striving to make inroads in poll-bound Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat, Union Minister Anurag Thakur told the media that the "real face" of the party, Mr. Kejriwal and Mr. Sisodia, had come in front of the public today. "...this is not the first case of corruption by the AAP. There has been huge corruption in the liquor stores in Delhi," he said.

While the searches were on, Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera took to Twitter to say: "The flip side to relentless misuse of agencies against political rivals is that even legitimate, rightful actions of agencies come under a cloud of suspicion. In the process, the corrupt get away hiding behind the 'misuse' argument and the honest end up paying the price."

Confirming that a CBI team had reached his residence, Mr. Sisodia tweeted in the morning saying that he was disappointed that those doing good work were being harassed. "That is why our country could not become No.1," he said.

Stating that earlier, the former Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain was arrested and now he [Manish Sisodia] was being targeted, Mr. Sisodia alleged the action was being taken to stop the excellent work being done in the areas of education and health in Delhi.

The raids were conducted in Delhi, Gurugram, Chandigarh, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Lucknow and Bengaluru. Mr. Sisodia is among the 15 accused named in the FIR.

The CBI, which registered the case on a reference from the Union Home Ministry, has alleged that there were irregularities while modifying the Excise Policy; undue favours were extended to licence holders; licence fee was waived/reduced; and L-1 licence was extended without the competent authority's approval. The illegal gains were diverted to the public servants concerned by private parties and false entries made in their books of accounts, the CBI alleged.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 10
KEJRIWAL'S REACTION ▸ PAGE 10

Under watch: A CBI official outside Manish Sisodia's house in Delhi. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

China calls for India to work 'in same direction' to restore ties

Jaishankar had said that relations were in a difficult phase

ANANTH KRISHNAN
BEIJING

Responding to External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's comments on Thursday that relations with China were in "an extremely difficult phase" and there were "many reasons" for both countries to work together, the Chinese government said it hoped India would work with it in "the same direction" to bring relations back on track at "an early date".

Mr. Jaishankar, speaking in Bangkok, also noted that it would be difficult "for the Asian century to happen if India and China could not come together", an observation that the Chinese Foreign Ministry appeared to endorse on Friday. Beijing did, however, appear to strike a different note on the Minister's remarks on the border situation and on the Quad.

"A Chinese leader said once if China and India cannot achieve sound development, then an Asian century cannot happen," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said. "China and India are two ancient civilisations, two emerging economies and two big neighbours. We have far more common interests than differences." Both sides had "the wisdom and capability to reinforce each other better than wear each other down", he said.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 10

Row over Lalu's son-in-law attending official meeting

AMARNATH TEWARY
PATNA

Rashtriya Janata Dal chief Lalu Prasad's elder son-in-law and Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav's political aide allegedly attended official meetings in Patna along with Ministers and officials, triggering a controversy.

After the photographs of the meetings went viral, the BJP asked Chief Minister Nitish Kumar whether he had allowed sons-in-law and political aides of Ministers to attend official meetings. State BJP leaders Sushil Kumar Modi and Nikhil Anand tweeted photographs of both Lalu Prasad's elder son-in-law Shailesh Kumar, and Sanjay Yadav, who is the political aide of Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav, attending official meetings.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 10

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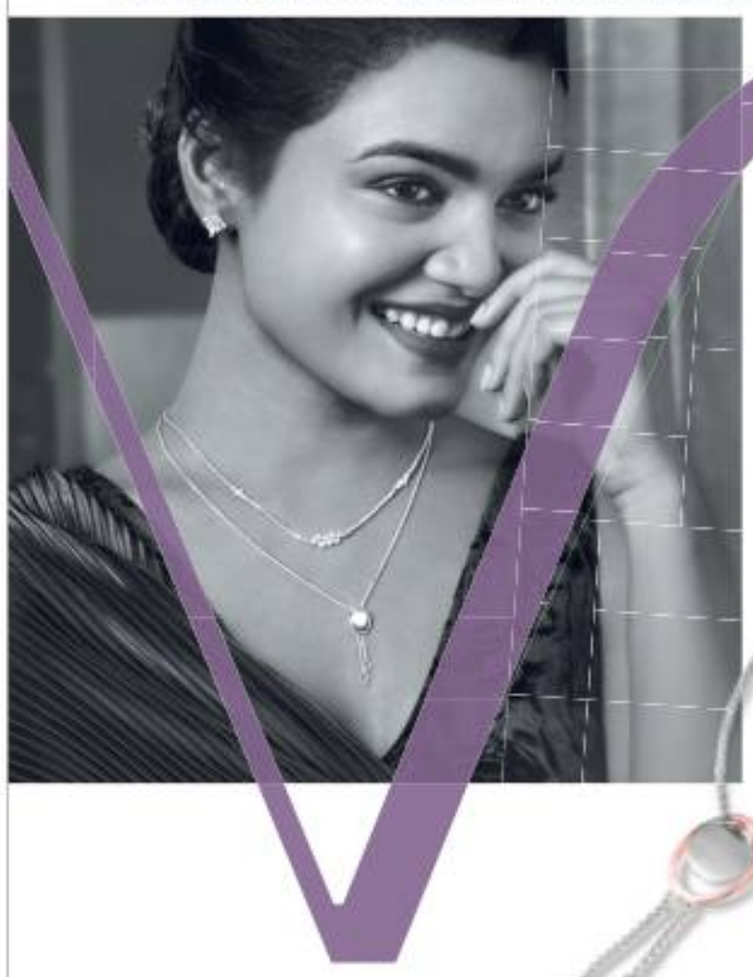

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Paddlers shine brightly through the fog of gloom

In spite of the administrative muddle that impedes Indian table tennis, the team — led by the inspirational Sharath Kamal and backed up splendidly by G. Sathiyan, Harmeet Desai and Sreeja Akula — scripted a golden chapter at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham

RAKESH RAO

Indian table tennis is going through a rough phase. From a player's perspective, the indefinite suspension of the elected office-bearers of the Table Tennis Federation of India and the installation of the Court-appointed Committee of Administrators has brought little hope. In the prevailing air of uncertainty, even the top players fear the worst if they raise questions.

Against such a gloomy backdrop, the team's success at the Commonwealth Games is far bigger than the five medals suggest. It is commendable, even if it did not match the 2018 collection of eight.

Sharath Kamal, 40, stood the tallest, with three gold medals — men's team, singles and mixed doubles (with Sreeja Akula) — and a silver in men's doubles with G. Sathiyan. Sharath's CWG medal tally stands at 13 from five appearances!

Sathiyan added a hard-fought singles bronze to go with the team gold and doubles silver.

My quality of play against Aruna can be compared to the level I played against Ma Long in Tokyo, especially the way I could return his serves, was able to move my serves and make it difficult for him
SHARATH

Harmeet was absolutely brilliant. He played a very big role in the doubles win. The way he played his singles in the final was absolutely stunning. We all could see he was playing world class table tennis
SATHIYAN

Harder path

Stupendous were Sharath, Sathiyan and Harmeet Desai in regaining the team gold. They called it a tougher journey to gold than the one in 2018. Surprisingly, the makeshift mixed pair of Sharath-Sreeja made amends for the quarter-final loss of favourite Sathiyan-Manika Batra.

Sreeja, 24, was clearly the pick among the Indian ladies. After the team's exit in the quarterfinals, Sreeja gave it her all to reach the singles semifinals. Two close losses meant she could not make it to the podium but she won many hearts with her demeanour and display.

These high points pushed into the background the ordinary showing of Manika, winner of four medals in 2018. She could not go beyond the quarterfinals in any of her four events.

World No. 32 Sharath led the way at Birmingham. That singular show of resilience and resolve against World No. 20 Aruna Quadri of Nigeria in the semifinals changed the way the Indian TT circles looked at the team's medal prospects.

"One of my best matches!" was the declaration from Sharath, whose international career spans almost two decades. "We knew England and Nigeria were the teams to beat. Surprisingly, England got its calculations wrong against Singapore in the semifinals and lost. That meant, if we did not beat Nigeria, we would run into England in the bronze medal match. We realised it could be gold or nothing.

Sharath Kamal
GETTY IMAGES

The plan

"We approached Nigeria as planned, hoping to take the doubles and two singles not featuring Aruna. Harmeet and Sathiyan gave us the lead and I faced Aruna in the second singles.

"My quality of play against Aruna can be compared to the level I played against Ma Long in Tokyo, especially the way I could return his serves, was able to move my serves and make it difficult for him. I constantly was on top of my game and didn't let him play his shots, like his big forehand.

"Still, many times when I hit a big forehand, it came back even bigger, even harder. During the match, I felt I was ahead of him but he kept coming. He kept trying new serves, different things. At one point in time, I felt like the match was going away, but I was lucky enough to close out the fourth game at 15-13 with some really big rallies."

Before Sathiyan came and finished the job for a resounding 3-0 victory, it was Harmeet's role in the doubles, as well as the gold-clinching singles in the final against Singapore, that stood out.

"Harmeet was absolutely brilliant," said his partner Sathiyan and continued, "he went for his shots and everything was top quality. He played a very big role in the doubles win, which was very important, considering that Singapore has a very strong pair. The way he played his singles in the final was absolutely stunning. We all could see he was playing world class table tennis."

For Sharath, Harmeet was the Man-of-the-Match of the final. "The way Harmeet destroyed Singapore, first in the doubles and then in the singles, was phenomenal. He simply bulldozed Clarence Chew, who beat me, with all that he had. His level of play was super fantastic."

On his part, Harmeet was humility personified. "In the final, I simply focused on doubles, without thinking too far ahead. Playing alongside Sathiyan becomes easy because we've played together from our junior days. His passive game, serve and receive are all so good that even when I am not playing well, we remain in the rally. That's the kind of security I get from Sathiyan. We executed our plans well. Before my singles, I had watched Sharath play Clarence. I had my plan in place. I'm glad I could deliver what the team expected of me."

Sathiyan's role in winning the first (doubles) and the third (singles) matches of a tie was crucial to the team's plans.

"Sathiyan had to play a number of matches without getting much rest in between. He has grown from strength to strength over the years. Always a team player, Sathiyan has done really well. The way he stepped up after my loss in the match against Singapore showed his resolve," acknowledged Sharath.

Once the individual events started, Sharath and Sathiyan played up to six matches a day. "I knew it would be tough so I trained for it both mentally and physically," revealed Sharath, "in fact, Sathiyan and Harmeet wondered how I could carry on like this and commented, 'Bhaiya, the way you are playing, it seems you could play another six matches today.'"

Thwarted again

As expected, in the doubles, Sharath and Sathiyan made the final and got a chance to avenge the defeat suffered in the 2018 final to England's Paul Drinkhall and Liam Pitchford. However, it was not to be and Indians once again suffered a 2-3 loss.

"We faltered in the decider and committed too many errors," was the candid admission from Sharath.

Talking about the mixed doubles, Sreeja said, "I had played with Sharath *anna* once in 2019 before Birmingham. I was very nervous but Sharath *anna* gave me all the confidence."

Sharath elaborated, "Initially, I had to talk to her a lot to make her feel comfortable. I repeatedly explained to her that we are equals, as partners, and it was important for her to give me her honest feedback. Before the final, she was in tears after her narrow loss in the singles and I had to lift her spirits. Once the final began, it was Sreeja all the way. She truly finished the match."

The blue-ribbon event of any racquet sport is the singles and Sharath was ready for the challenges. "In the semifinal, I was ready for Drinkhall, who won the last three sets to beat Aruna in the quarterfinals. I was riding on my confidence but he came up with some unbelievable returns. I always felt in control," said Sharath of his 4-2 victory.

Sathiyan, however, lost to Pitchford, who was keen to make amends for his twin losses to Singapore in the team semifinal.

For the bronze medal, against Drinkhall, Sathiyan tossed away a 3-0 lead to trail 8-9 in the decider before getting through. "After leading 3-0, I became too desperate. It was only after I lost my lead, I played freely and eventually won," was the candid admission from a smiling Sathiyan.

In the final, Sharath did drop the opening game but, thereafter, made it a one-sided affair against Pitchford and the home crowd. "Somehow I knew I was playing well and never let Pitchford get ahead," he said. "It was tough but nowhere close to the one against Aruna Quadri. With that gold, I ended my best Commonwealth Games!"

Harmeet Desai and Sathiyan

Sharath and Sreeja Akula

Playing alongside Sathiyan becomes easy because we've played together from our junior days. His passive game, serve and receive are all so good that even when I am not playing well, we remain in the rally
HARMEET

I had played with Sharath *anna* once in 2019 before Birmingham. I was very nervous but Sharath *anna* gave me all the confidence
SREEJA AKULA

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Daniil Medvedev	26	6,885	19
2	Alexander Zverev	25	6,760	19
3	Rafael Nadal	36	5,620	8
4	Carlos Alcaraz	19	5,045	18
5	Casper Ruud	23	4,865	23
6	Novak Djokovic	35	4,770	11
7	Stefanos Tsitsipas	24	4,650	22
8	Andrey Rublev	24	3,630	24
9	Felix Auger-Aliassime	22	3,625	24
10	Hubert Hurkacz	25	3,435	22
11	Cameron Norrie	26	3,065	24
12	Jannik Sinner	20	2,975	21
13	Taylor Fritz	24	2,930	23
14	Pablo Carreno Busta	31	2,545	24
15	Matteo Berrettini	26	2,440	18

Top Indians ▸

Ramkumar Ramanathan
Rank 240 ▼ 2 spots

Prajnesh Gunneswaran
Rank 324 ▲ 13 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Iga Swiatek	21	8,501	17
2	Anett Kontaveit	26	4,476	21
3	Maria Sakkari	27	4,190	21
4	Paula Badosa	24	4,155	24
5	Ons Jabeur	27	3,920	19
6	Simona Halep	30	3,255	19
7	Aryna Sabalenka	24	3,121	20
8	Jessica Pegula	28	3,116	17
9	Garbine Muguruza	28	2,990	19
10	Daria Kasatkina	25	2,795	21
11	Belinda Bencic	25	2,765	20
12	Coco Gauff	18	2,746	17
13	Emma Raducanu	19	2,742	22
14	Leylah Fernandez	19	2,569	17
15	Jelena Ostapenko	25	2,361	18

Top Indians ▸

Ankita Raina
Rank 357 ▼ 27 spots

Karman Thandi
Rank 363 ▲ NO CHANGE

F1 Drivers' standings

#	DRIVER	TEAM	POINTS	WINS
1	Max Verstappen	Red Bull Racing	258	8
2	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	178	1
3	Sergio Perez	Red Bull Racing	173	1
4	George Russell	Mercedes	158	0
5	Carlos Sainz	Ferrari	156	1
6	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	146	0
7	Lando Norris	McLaren	76	0
8	Esteban Ocon	Alpine	58	0
9	Valtteri Bottas	Alfa Romeo	46	0
10	Fernando Alonso	Alpine	41	0
11	Kevin Magnussen	Haas	22	0
12	Daniel Ricciardo	McLaren	19	0
13	Pierre Gasly	AlphaTauri	16	0
14	Sebastian Vettel	Aston Martin	16	0
15	Mick Schumacher	Haas	12	0
16	Yuki Tsunoda	AlphaTauri	11	0
17	Zhou Guanyu	Alfa Romeo	5	0
18	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	4	0
19	Alex Albon	Williams	3	0
20	Nicholas Latifi	Williams	0	0
21	Nico Hulkenberg	Aston Martin	0	0

Max Verstappen

Charles Leclerc

F1 Constructors' standings

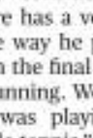
POS	TEAM	POINTS	WINS	PODIUMS
1	Red Bull	431	9	16
2	Ferrari	334	4	11
3	Mercedes	304	0	11
4	Alpine	99	0	0
5	McLaren	95	0	1
6	Alfa Romeo	51	0	0
7	Haas	34	0	0
8	AlphaTauri	27	0	0
9	Aston Martin	20	0	0
10	Williams	3	0	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	PLAYER	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Viktor Axelsen	121,606	37
2	Kento Momota	112,704	26
3	Anders Antonsen	98,300	35
4	Chou Tien Chen	93,776	38
5	Lee Zii Jia	91,578	39
6	Anthony Sinisuka Ginting	89,279	34
7	Jonatan Christie	82,412	34
8	Loh Kean Yew	79,594	29
9	Chen Long	76,830	14
10	Lakshya Sen	75,874	36
11	Ng Ka Long Angus	72,007	34
12	Rasmus Gemke	70,551	34
13	K. Srikanth	68,731	41
14	Kanta Tsuneyama	66,838	28
15	Lee Cheuk Yiu	66,061	34

Top Indians ▸

Lakshya Sen
Rank 10


K. Srikanth
Rank 13

Badminton Women's ranking

#	PLAYER	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Akane Yamaguchi	111,013	34
2	Tai Tzu Ying	110,845	25
3	An Se Young	104,403	43
4	Chen Yu Fei	103,606	26
5	Carolina Marin	100,380	24
6	Nozomi Okuhara	95,960	23
7	P.V. Sindhu	95,518	39
8	Ratchanok Intanon	89,349	36
9	He Bing Jiao	81,064	31
10	Pornpawee Chochuwong	78,265	41
11	Wang Zhi Yi	75,238	29
12	Busanan Ongbamrungphan	70,294	47
13	Michelle Li	70,130	39
14	Sayaka Takahashi	66,573	29
15	Mia Blichfeldt	63,679	25

Top Indians ▸

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 7

Saina Nehwal
Rank 33

Test Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Joe Root	923	923
2	Marnus Labuschagne	885	936
3	Babar Azam	874	874
4	Steve Smith	848	947
5	Rishabh Pant	801	801
6	Kane Williamson	786	919
7	Usman Khawaja	766	779
8	Dimuth Karunaratne	746	782
9	Rohit Sharma	746	813
10	Jonny Bairstow	742	772

Test Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Pat Cummins	891	914
2	R. Ashwin	842	904
3	Shaheen Afridi	836	836
4	Jasprit Bumrah	828	835
5	Kagiso Rabada	818	902
6	James Anderson	811	903
7	Kyle Jamieson	788	836
8	Kemar Roach	756	780
9	Neil Wagner	747	859
10	Mitchell Starc	739	806

ODI Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Babar Azam	891	898
2	Imam-ul-Haq	800	815
3	R. van der Dussen	789	796
4	Quinton de Kock	784	813
5	Virat Kohli	767	911
6	Rohit Sharma	763	885
7	Ross Taylor	744	841
8	David Warner	737	880
9	Jonny Bairstow	732	796
10	Aaron Finch	715	798

ODI Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Trent Boult	697	770
2	Jasprit Bumrah	682	841
3	Josh Hazlewood	679	733
4	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	676	712
5	Shaheen Afridi	674	688
6	Matt Henry	663	691
7	Mohammad Nabi	657	657
8	Mehedi Hasan	655	725
9	Rashid Khan	651	806
10	Mustafizur Rahman	640	695

T20I Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Babar Azam	818	896
2	Suryakumar Yadav	805	816
3	Mohammad Rizwan	794	798
4	Aiden Markram	792	796
5	Dawid Malan	731	915
6	Aaron Finch	716	900
7	Devon Conway	683	784
8	Pathum Nissanka	661	689
9	Muhammad Waseem	636	636
10	Reeza Hendricks	628	647

T20I Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Josh Hazlewood	792	806
2	Tabraiz Shamsi	716	821
3	Adil Rashid	702	746
4	Adam Zampa	698	743
5	Rashid Khan	688	816
6	Wanindu Hasaranga	668	797
7	Akeal Hosein	665	681
8	Mitchell Santner	651	731
9	Maheesh Theekshana	647	647
10	Bhuvneshwar Kumar	644	665

Does your home support your senior years?

Future-proof your home. Look for amenities that would meet your health needs, safety aspects, and social balance, says **ANIL PHARANDE**

Price is always a critical factor when Indians go on a house hunt, but is this the only important aspect? It's World Senior Citizen's Day on August 21. Ahead of that, consider this – a home is supposed to be an asset for a lifetime and should support us during all stages of life. Therefore, judging a home only by the family's current needs is not the best approach.

In the past, most Indian middle-class homebuyers were between 35 and 38 years old. Today, many are aged between 25 and 30, primarily because of the Indian IT sector, where young people start earning well from early on. Also, those aged 60 and above seem keen to alter their lifestyle by getting bigger homes to accommodate a larger family. This is what is seen trending among most homebuyers in the market today.

Unfortunately, when homebuyers are young, they often do not have a good perspective of old age. But a home bought today must meet the homebuyer's needs throughout one's life. Older people aged 55 and above have different needs and requirements than young people in the prime of their life. Budget undoubtedly plays a major role while buying a home, but the property must continue to serve its purpose when the bloom of youth has faded. It must be 'future-proofed'. What does this mean?

> The needs of the elderly are often overlooked by builders, so many of these 'lifetime assets' actually come with an expiry period

Primarily, a home purchased today must support both lifestyle aspirations and dignity and ease of living in the advanced years. When faculties begin to fade, a home must support physical comfort, health, safety, and social needs.

This applies at every level, from the property itself to the project's amenities and the location. For example, a young married couple will look for schools for the kids and shops nearby to buy daily essentials but may overlook the need for a nearby hospital. Senior-focused facilities may seem redundant.

A jogging track and Olympic-sized swimming pool make perfect sense for the younger years, but an instant response facility for medical emergencies and a seniors zone may seem unnecessary. Most up-and-coming young Indians own one or more personal vehicles, so they will look for enough parking spaces. But many seniors today do not drive anymore and prefer to use the bus or metro instead.

Ageing well

Ageing in place is now a popular concept for several reasons. Not only do older people (remember, this includes you in the future!) dislike geographical change and dislocation, but the friendships and dynamics built up over several years living in a good project add much value to their lives and are therefore hard to give up.

Also, after living in a project for so many years, you will have established routines and working relationships with local service providers that make life easy and familiar. You will be familiar with the area and how to get around to places of necessity and interest.

However, it is more than possible that the home you bought when you were younger may not provide as much comfort as you age. There will be new safety and security concerns and new challenges with getting around. A badly-planned project may not display its drawbacks to younger inhabitants, but older people will feel them.

Creative outlets

Today, some developers market their projects specifically to target audiences such as women and married couples with children who need sufficient creative and physical energy outlets. The needs of seniors are often overlooked, so many of these 'lifetime assets' actually come with an expiry period.

The elderly also need access to shops for daily living essentials, but they also depend on public transportation and are more prone to mishaps or ill health, which means they need healthcare facilities nearby. Also, a vibrant old age depends significantly on the quality of social connections forged in a friendly, suitable neighbourhood during the younger years. Were the project and location chosen with these factors in mind?

These are some of the reasons why buying a cheaper home in a small project will often not meet the needs of senior citizens. Only big residential complexes with facilities like green open spaces, gardens, parks and other community areas can support senior citizens' needs. There invariably comes the point when today's young homebuyers regret not having chosen a home near a hospital or with a hospital on the premises itself.

In India today, except for senior living projects, most housing cannot meet the needs of senior citizens. In that respect, senior living facilities certainly have the right equation. Depending on the quality of the development, senior living projects have various features such as accessible ramps, easily-operable lifts, anti-skid tiles and hand railings in bathrooms and in-unit alarms and safety sensors. They will also offer a full deck of maintenance facilities, common mess halls and various means of socialising and recreation designed specifically for the aged.

Still, senior living is not every elder's cup of tea – many prefer to mingle with the hustle and flow of multi-generational living even when they're older – in short, age in place. Here, choices matter a lot. Homes bought because of their lower price tags will lack the amenities and facilities that allow the elderly to live a healthy and fulfilling life. This is why many seniors move into senior living projects, incurring a high additional cost when they may be close to retirement or already retired. Picking the right home requires us to look further into the future and anticipate how our needs will change as we age.

The writer is chairman, Pharande Spaces, and president, CREDAI Pune-Metro.

Integrated township

Choosing a home in an integrated township is one of the best ways to make a future-proofed home-buying decision today. Apart from the fact that integrated townships factor in the necessities of all age groups, most Indians do not want to move out of an accustomed environment when they become older.

Integrated townships incorporate several fail-safe systems and facilities not available in another kind of residential project. Apart from the assurance that the green open spaces you enjoy today will still be there in the future, a township is built according to a master plan which ensures that the lifestyle facilities and amenities are adequately maintained.

Shopping and healthcare are provided on the premises, often within easy walking distance or just a short drive away. There are no water shortages or electricity outages, and the township is kept safe with multi-level security measures. Modern townships also provide the latest smart home features, making life in township properties comfortable and easy for all age groups, including the elderly.

To ensure that moving does not become a necessity tomorrow and life continues to be easy and joyful, choose the right home today. Before making the final choice, it pays to get into a 'time machine' and picture yourself several years in the future.

You can also easily judge your own needs in old age by observing how older people around you navigate.

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According to the ATREE study, 26% of the respondents in Bengaluru had terrace gardens. •FILE PHOTO

Most urban gardens in city are outside houses, finds study

50.8% of respondents have a garden of some kind in their homes

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

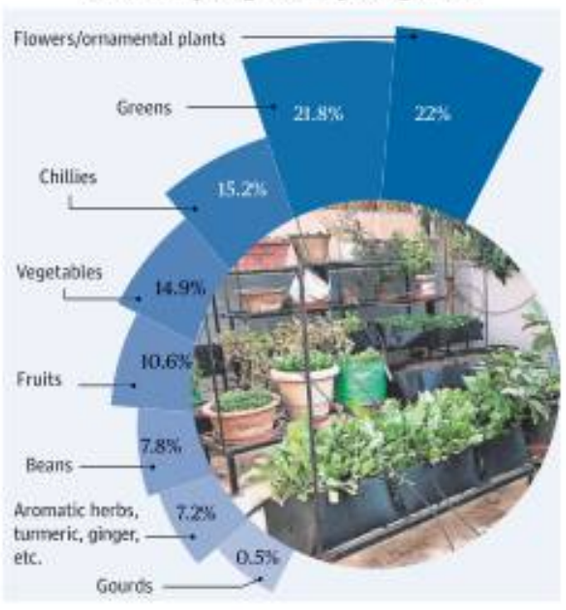
An online survey by ATREE in Bengaluru has shown that 50.8% of the respondents have a garden of some kind in their homes. The survey, which aimed at finding out if urban agriculture is viable in Bengaluru, found that out of them, only 32% grow vegetables or fruits in their gardens.

The respondents also indicated that a majority of them, 48.5%, had their garden spaces outside their houses, while 26% of them had terrace gardens.

Another 21.3% did their gardening on the balconies of their houses. These gardeners mostly had flowers or ornamental plants (22%) in their gardens, while 21.8% of them reported having grown greens and another chunk of people grew solanaceae (chillies, peppers, and vegetables).

However, the number of people who grew edibles in their gardens was relatively low. Although 81% of the respondents indicated that they would be interested in having an edible garden, they are faced with constraints such as a lack of space (55%), a lack of time (25.1%), and a lack of information (12%).

Responses to the question 'What do you grow in your garden'



Chethana Casiker, a researcher with ATREE who presented the survey findings. also noted that despite 45 to 55% of the regular Indian diet being pollinator dependent (vegetables, fruits, spices, pulses), the cultivation of the pollinator dependent crops in the areas around Bengaluru has come down in the recent years.

This problem is not limited to the city as from all around the world, there have been reports about growing concerns about pollinator loss and an increasing demand for pollination services.

Contrary to popular belief, the study around bees in sites in rural and urban areas has shown that urban sites are richer in bee species as well as floral diversity. These spaces are also home to many lesser-known bee species and the community's higher response to floral resources might be one of the causes, as identified by the researchers.

ATREE is also setting up centres across Bengaluru to generate more data on the ecology of bees in urban systems, to bring forth more functional taxa into focus, work with edible gardening and agriculture, and many other purposes.

ATREE to work on using waste water to green parks

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

ATREE has tied up with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to work on a project which will use waste water to green the parks in the city.

With three of their campaigns, ATREE looks to manage the material flow between three layers of the city - blue (waterbodies), green (plants, parks, gardens, urban farms) and grey (road networks, sewage channels and all things man made) - to ensure that there is effective waste management as well as utilisation of resources.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Shreya Nath, who leads the Green City initiative at ATREE – CSEI, said that lakes coming back to their previous state will be a good visual metric of effective flow of material between the three layers.

Explaining the process of good flow, she added that to divert the waste water and raw sewage from the lakes in a climate responsible way, it could be used in other ways like construction, commercial and industrial usage (which uses 388 million litres a day according to ATREE estimates), tunnel boring for metro (which uses 60 thousand litres of water per metre), greening parks, and other such activities. "Currently, the three layers are managed by different bodies and they do not account for the flow between them. But with such activities we can prove the economic benefits of treating sewage so that people take it up by themselves," Ms. Shreya said.

She added that under the 'Grey to Green' campaign, logistics, conveyance and quality monitoring has been figured out by ATREE and a trial run for the same was conducted in a BBMP park in Yelahanka. The project was also supported by Karnataka State Pollution Control Board.

Munawar Faruqui show in Bengaluru cancelled again

This follows complaint from a Hindutva organisation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The city police have again cancelled a stand-up comedy show by comic Munawar Faruqui, scheduled to be held on Friday at a convention hall in J.P. Nagar.

The police cancelled the show following a complaint filed by a hitherto unknown Hindutva organisation called Jai Sri Ram Sena Sanghatan to the City Police Commissioner alleging the show "Dongri to Nowhere" would hurt the religious sentiments of Hindus.

However, making no reference to the complaint, P. Krishnakant, DCP, South Division, told reporters that the event was organised without taking any permission and hence it was cancelled.

It was an indoor programme announced online on ticket booking platforms, for which the police permission is usually not sought.

Munawar Faruqui

In a similar vein, the Ashok Nagar Police cancelled his show in the city in November 2021, pushing the comic over the edge.

He had then declared: "*Nafrat jeet gayi, artist haar gaya* . I'm done, goodbye. Injustice", taking many by shock.

The city police's move had drawn flak of many from the city, especially those from the stand-up comic community. However, he made a comeback to the stage later.

- However, P. Krishnakant, DCP, South Division, told reporters that the event was organised without taking any permission and hence it was cancelled. It was an indoor programme announced online on ticket booking platforms, for which the police permission is usually not sought.

Mr. Faruqui was arrested in January 2021 from a cafe in Indore over an alleged joke that would hurt Hindu religious sentiments, even before the show began and Hindutva organisations have been carrying on a relentless campaign against the comic since then, disrupting his shows across the country.

Meanwhile, Mr. Faruqui took to social media on Friday and said the show in Bengaluru was postponed to next Friday as he missed the flight owing to health issues.

'Strong innovation ecosystem should be part of core strategy'

This will help India become global innovation hub: Kris

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

To emerge a global technology innovation hub, India needs to create a strong innovation ecosystem as part of its core strategy, said Kris Gopalakrishnan, co-founder, Infosys and chairman, Axilor Ventures.

"India undoubtedly needs to create a strong innovation ecosystem as part of its core strategy. An in-depth focus on innovation will lead to boosting the existing sectors and frontier sectors that will drive the next economic growth," he was speaking at a prelude to CII Innoverge 2022, an annual engineering and innovation summit scheduled to be held between August 25 and 27 here in the city.

Kris Gopalakrishnan

Kamal Bali, deputy chairman, CII SR, and president & MD Volvo Group, India, said, "CII has been advocating the importance of higher investment and more focus on innovation".

Innovation was key for various spectrums to emerge by adopting high-end technology to maximise business outcomes, said Ramesh Ramadurai, former chairman, CII Karnataka and MD, 3M India.

"The India Innovation summit will showcase an excellent overview of advances in various sectors such as healthcare, mobility, transportation, manufacturing, and several more," he added.

Arjun M. Ranga, chairman, CII Karnataka, and director, NR Group, and MD, Cycle Pure Agarbathi, said the industry was performing at an all-time high globally and the sunrise industries in India were driving tremendous momentum.

Delivery executives of Swiggy stage protest demanding minimum wage

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Over a hundred delivery executives of Swiggy Instamart Online Groceries in Marathahalli Zone went on a flash strike on Friday demanding "decent wages" for over eight hours of work.

Protesting executives alleged that the company had taken many of them, much over the need. There were no orders to match the workforce and hence they were not being paid adequately.

"As there are not enough orders, many staff members end up getting ₹240 per day which is not enough to sustain in the city," said one of the protesting executives Akshay Choudhary. "We demand the company give us orders so that we could earn up to ₹650 per day as promised," Vignesh Kumar, another staff member said.

The executives have been working with the firm for the last one year. The problem reportedly started two months ago when the company's rolls swelled leading to chaos and the executives haven't been getting five orders per day even after waiting for 8 hours.

The protesters gathered at the Swiggy office situated at Kundalahalli gate and submitted a representation to the management demanding minimum orders and wage. "The company has sought time to resolve the issue, failing which we will intensify the protest," one of the protesters, said.

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Celebrations

Devotees at the Venugopala Krishna Swami temple on the occasion of Krishna Janmashtami in Bengaluru on Friday. •SUDHAKARA JAIN

1,573 new cases in State

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka on Friday recorded 1,573 new infections taking the total number of cases to 40,38,398.

With this the day's Test Positivity Rate (TPR) stood at 4.91% and the weekly TPR touched 6.36%.

Of the new cases, 935 have been reported from Bengaluru Urban alone.

With three deaths, the State's toll also touched 40,162.

DULT to submit area parking plans soon

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) will soon prepare an area parking plan for the core city – South, West and East Zones – as per the Parking Policy 2.0, under which parking will mostly be paid, a plan that was approved by the State government in 2021. A meeting on the policy was chaired by Rakesh Singh, Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department, on Friday.

"Action plans for five of the city's eight zones have been submitted to the BBMP. Action plans for another three more zones have been discussed and will be submitted to the BBMP by this month end," said V. Manjula, Commissioner, DULT.

"Action plans have been prepared after the DULT officials surveyed every commercial road in the past few months, along with data analyses. In consultation with stakeholders, a Detailed Project Report on this is also submitted to BBMP," she added.

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF 57th ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-73)
O.S. NO. 26516/2021
Between :
M/s. ICICI BANK LIMITED Mittal Tower, M.G. Road Bangalore- 560001 Represented by its Manager Power of Attorney Holder Mr. Pramodh G. ...Plaintiff
V/S
Mr Borappanahalli Huchaiah Srinivas Murthy ...Defendant
Summons To Defendant
Mr. Borappanahalli Huchaiah Srinivas Murthy, S/o. Mr. Huchaiah, Aged About 39 Years, A3, Adarsha Enclave, 2nd Phase, Ground Flr, Sidedahalli, Sidedahalli Bus Stop, Bangalore- 560073.
Whereas the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 9,26,446.28/- (Rupees Nine Lakhs Twenty Six Thousand Four Hundred Forty Six and Paise Twenty Eight Only)** apart from future interest of 9.35% p.a., in O.S. No.26516/2021 and same is pending adjudication in CCH 58, Before 57th Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge, Mayohall, Bengaluru. You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 28th Day of September 2022 at 11 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Ex-parte.
Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 16th Day of August 2022.
By Order of Court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru- 560001
FX & CO., ADVOCATES
New No. 9, Old No.11/1 Gover Road, Cox Town, BENGALURU- 560 005.

LEGAL NOTICE

In the Court of Add. Civil Judge (Senior Division) Court No- 4 Ghaziabad
Original Suit No-960/2018
Ghaziabad Devlopment Authority,Vikas Path Hapur Road, Ghaziabad, through Sh. Deena Nath Anu. Shachiv, Ghaziabad Devlopment Authority, Ghaziabad.
.....Plaintiff
V/s
1. Sh. Ravinder Kumar Sharma S/o Sh. Baiajnath Sharma, R/o-D- 142, Jhilmil Colony Shahdara Delhi-110032
2. Sh. Sagar Prakash S/o Sh. Vimal Kumar Saxena, C/o- R. Krishna, Murti, Door No-783, First Floor, 13 Cross, 16 Main B.T.M. Second Stage Bangalore-530068
.....Defendants
Where as the said plaintiff has, filed the present Suit against you for the cancellation of sale deed dated 27.02.2007. The said suit is pending in my court. Next date fixed is 01.09.2022. You are therefore herby called upon to file the written statement by the date fixed and be present in the Court personally or through counsel at 10:00 AM, Otherwise the matter will be heared and decided ex-party. Issued under my signature and seal of the Court on 25 day of July 2022
By Order
Add. Civil Judge (Senior Division) Court No-4 Ghaziabad

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MANASA** Koukuntla, W/O. Koukuntla Ram Mohan, R/O. S-9, Krishna Brookfields Apts, B-Block, AECS Layout, Blr-17, have changed name to Manasa Chittancori vide affdvt dtd 18/08/22

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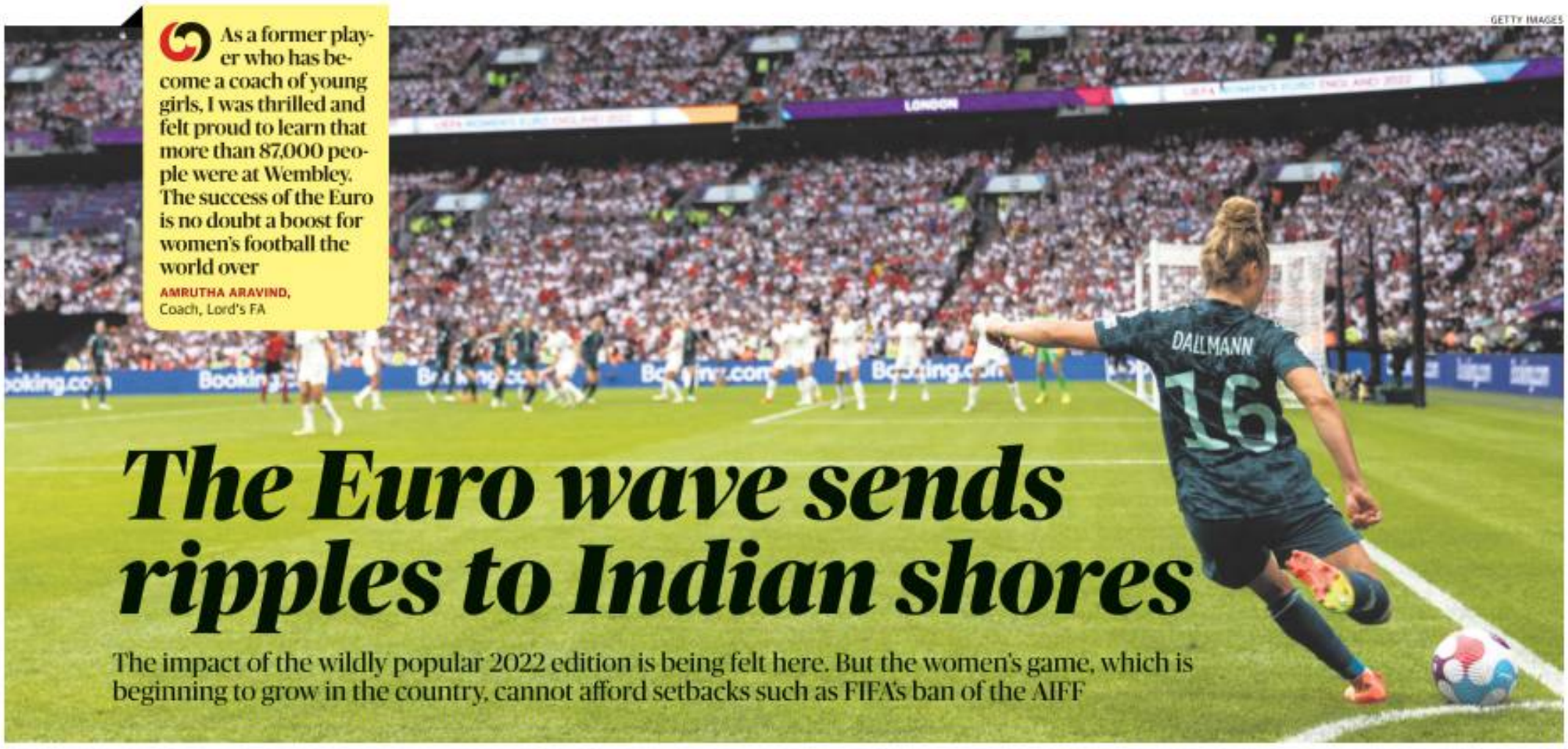


> As a former player who has become a coach of young girls, I was thrilled and felt proud to learn that more than 87,000 people were at Wembley. The success of the Euro is no doubt a boost for women's football the world over
>
> **AMRUTHA ARAVIND,** Coach, Lord's FA

The Euro wave sends ripples to Indian shores

The impact of the wildly popular 2022 edition is being felt here. But the women's game, which is beginning to grow in the country, cannot afford setbacks such as FIFA's ban of the AIFF

P.K. AJITH KUMAR

Chloe Kelly took another glance back at the goal, as if to make sure she had indeed scored. She had, yes. She whipped off her shirt and whirled it above her head.

It was reminiscent of Brandi Chastain's iconic celebration in 1999 after her penalty kick won USA the Women's World Cup. A crowd of 90,185 fans had watched the host defeat China in the final at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. The television audience in the US alone peaked at 40 million viewers.

Tipping point

That game changed women's football in North America forever. It also gave a major impetus to the women's game the world over. The image of the American team celebrating after the shoot-out remains a defining moment. It has inspired many to take up the sport.

England's triumph in the Euro at Wembley 23 years later is likely to be similarly remembered years from now. It could well have a comparable impact.

As many as 87,192 fans were there to witness the Cup finally 'coming home' – something England had been desperately hoping for at every major football competition after the 1966 World Cup triumph, which was also at Wembley. It was the biggest crowd in the history of the Euro – for a men's or women's match.

The final, in which England defeated Germany 2-1, with Kelly's winner coming late in extra time, also broke the record for television.

> I feel the Euro produced new icons for the game, [adding to the likes of] Megan Rapinoe of the United States, who, I have found, inspired so many young female footballers in India. Now after the Euro, they have players like [Chloe] Kelly and Beth Mead to look up to

> I believe even more ISL clubs will be joining the fray [women's football]. If you look at a State like Kerala alone, you will find some four professional clubs. And people are watching those teams, too. One of the Blasters' matches in the Kerala Women's League was watched by nearly 70,000 on YouTube
>
> **R. RIZWAN,** Director, Kerala Blasters women

BBC's telecast of the match was watched by 17.4 million in the UK and another 5.9 million on live stream. This means the match was watched by about 34% of the UK's population.

Widely followed

It was a big hit in Germany too; almost 18 million people watched their team lose for the first time in nine Women's Euro finals. It was not just the final, the entire tournament proved a great advertisement for football. Staged on 10 grounds across England, the matches were watched by more than 550,000 fans, who proved that the women's game has a bright future.

Its past in England is not quite so glorious. In 1921, women's football was banned by the Football Association (FA), the game's governing body in England. The FA found the game "quite unsuitable for females" and decreed that its members' grounds should not be used for women's matches, although they were popular at the time – one match reportedly drew 53,000 fans. The ban lasted 50 years. There have been similar bans in Germany and Brazil as well.

Women's football has dribbled a long way past opposition from those dark days. It has spread its wings wide, too. The ripples from the Women's Euro final could be felt in distant India, too.

"As a former player who has become a coach of young girls, I was thrilled and felt proud to learn that more than 87,000 people were at Wembley," says Amrutha Aravind, who guided the Madurai-based Sethu FC to the Indian Women's League (IWL) title in 2019. "The success of the Women's Euro is no doubt a boost for women's football the world over."

R. Rizwan, the director of the newly launched women's team of ISL club Kerala Blasters, agrees with Amrutha, who is now coach of another new team from Kochi, Lord's FA.

Source of inspiration

"I enjoyed watching the England-Germany final and I feel the Women's Euro produced new icons for the game, [adding to the likes of] Megan Rapinoe of the United States, who, I have found, inspired so many young female footballers in India," Rizwan says. "Now after the Euro, they have players like Kelly and Beth Mead to look up to."

Like Rizwan, V.C. Praveen, the president of Gokulam Kerala, is also betting heavily on women's football. Last year, the management spent ₹50 lakh on the women's team. Gokulam is the IWL champion for the last two editions (just as the men's team is in the I-League).

"There is huge potential for the women's game in India," Praveen says. "And I am happy to see that many other clubs like us have begun to invest in women's football of late."

Odisha FC, East Bengal, FC Goa and Bengaluru FC have all launched women's teams.

"I believe even more ISL clubs will be joining the fray," says Rizwan. "If you look at a State like Kerala alone, you will find some four professional clubs. And people are watching those teams, too. One of the Blasters' matches in the Kerala Women's League was watched by nearly 70,000 on YouTube."

He believes the success of Indian players such as Manisha Kalyan and Grace Dangmei is another fillip for the sport. Kalyan has been signed by Apollon, which plays in Cyprus' First Division, while Dangmei will turn out for Nasaf Qarshi in Uzbekistan. Aditi Chauhan has already played in England, for West Ham United.

Things are certainly looking up for women's football in India, but much more needs to be done. Otherwise, the national team will continue to have players that have to make a living by finding jobs, including domestic work, that pay very little.

Not that women's footballers earn a lot in countries such as England and Germany. One of the architects of England's recent triumph, Millie Bright, worked as a fitness instructor while playing for her first club in Doncaster.

After the Euro, the scenario is bound to change. Already the Women's Super League clubs in England have reported a significant increase in ticket sales for the next season, kicking off on September 9.

The Under-17 Women's World Cup, scheduled to be held later this year in India, was expected to increase interest and participation in India. But, the tournament is no longer certain to be held in India, following FIFA's ban of the All India Football Federation (AIFF); the world governing body has found undue influence from third parties in the game's administration.

Indian women's football has already had to pay for the AIFF's mishandling of its affairs. Shortly after reaching Uzbekistan, earlier this week, to play in the AFC Women's Club championship, Gokulam found that the team has been disqualified by the Asian Football Confederation, as a result of the FIFA ban. The women's game in India simply cannot afford such mismanagement; the people in charge of Indian football need to get their act together quickly.

> There is huge potential in India. And I am happy to see that many other clubs like us have begun to invest in women's football
>
> **V.C. PRAVEEN,** President, Gokulam Kerala

Manisha Kalyan

Grace Dangmei

GAME THEORY

The highest fliers in women's pole vault

Yelena Isinbayeva, a two-time Olympic and three-time World champion, is the only female pole vaulter to clear 5 metres and more, both outdoor and indoor. She holds the world record (5.06m). 2012 Olympic champion Jennifer Suhr has the two highest-ever indoor vaults, both over 5m; her best outdoor is 4.93m. A look at the top marks in women's pole vault:

OUTDOOR

Yelena Isinbayeva

Mark (m)	Athlete	Venue	Date
5.06	Yelena Isinbayeva	Zurich	28 Aug 2009
5.05	Yelena Isinbayeva	Beijing	18 Aug 2008
5.04	Yelena Isinbayeva	Monaco	29 Jul 2008
5.03	Yelena Isinbayeva	Rome	11 Jul 2008
5.01	Yelena Isinbayeva	Helsinki	12 Aug 2005
5.01	Anzhelika Sidorova	Zurich	09 Sep 2021
5.00	Yelena Isinbayeva	London	22 Jul 2005
5.00	Sandi Morris	Brussels	09 Sep 2016
4.96	Yelena Isinbayeva	London	22 Jul 2005
4.95	Yelena Isinbayeva	Madrid	16 Jul 2005
4.95	Sandi Morris	Greenville (USA)	27 Jul 2018
4.95	Anzhelika Sidorova	Doha	29 Sep 2019
4.95	Katie Nageotte	Eugene (USA)	26 Jun 2021

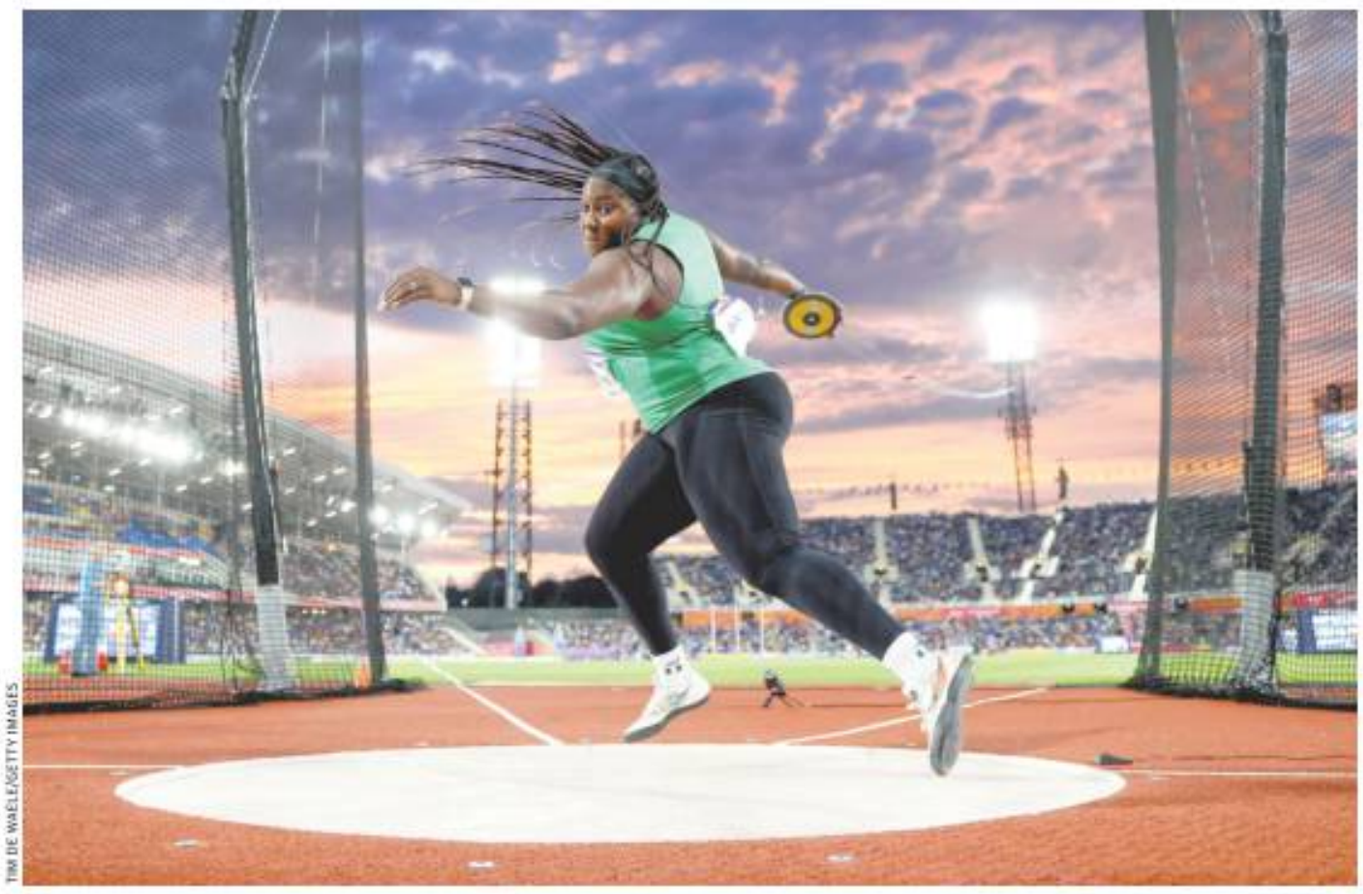
INDOOR

Mark (m)	Athlete	Venue	Date
5.03	Jennifer Suhr	New York	30 Jan 2016
5.02	Jennifer Suhr	Albuquerque (USA)	02 Mar 2013
5.01	Yelena Isinbayeva	Stockholm	23 Feb 2012
5.00	Yelena Isinbayeva	Donetsk (Ukraine)	15 Feb 2009
4.97	Yelena Isinbayeva	Donetsk (Ukraine)	15 Feb 2009
4.95	Yelena Isinbayeva	Donetsk (Ukraine)	16 Feb 2008
4.95	Sandi Morris	Portland (USA)	12 Mar 2016
4.95	Sandi Morris	Birmingham	03 Mar 2018
4.95	Anzhelika Sidorova	Moscow	29 Feb 2020

Jennifer Suhr

SOURCE: WORLD ATHLETICS

PICTURE THIS



TIM DE WAELE/GETTY IMAGES

Letting rip

Nigeria's Chioma Onyekwere prepares to hurl the discus during the women's final at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham earlier this month.

The America-born Onyekwere made history, becoming the first Nigerian to be crowned the Commonwealth Games women's discus champion.

The 28-year-old, a graduate of mechanical engineering from the University of Maryland, registered a distance of 61.70m.

Although it was less than her personal best of 63.30m, it was enough for gold.

Onyekwere is a two-time African champion, but the triumph in Birmingham was her biggest yet.

She will be eyeing further improvement, for she is only 111th in the world this season, a fair distance behind No. 1 Valarie Allman's 71.46m. Allman is the reigning Olympic champion, having won gold at Tokyo last year.

India's best this season, Kamalpreet Kaur, is 20 rungs below Onyekwere in the season's list, 131st with a mark of 61.39m. Kamalpreet also holds the Indian national record (66.59m).

The world record is Gabriele Reinsch's 76.80m, set in 1988. Indeed, the 55 best-ever throws all came in the 1980s! Allman's mark is 69th: it's the only throw after 1993 to feature in the top 70.

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'Disclose Aadhaar details of 12 Bangladeshi nationals to NIA'

Investigation agency is probing fabrication of documents to secure Aadhaar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to furnish information and documents submitted for securing Aadhaar by 12 Bangladesh nationals, some of whom are already convicted in a gang rape case, and some are facing trial in human trafficking and illegal immigration cases before a trial court in the city.

Justice Krishna S. Dixit issued the directions to the UIDAI while allowing a petition filed by the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

The NIA had approached the High Court as UIDAI had declined to provide the information. • FILE PHOTO

Confidentiality clause

The NIA had approached the court as UIDAI had declined to provide the information and documents sought for, as Section 33 mandates that confidential information/ authentication documents, which are prohibited from being revealed, can be disclosed in certain cases only by an order of the court not inferior to a judge of the High Court.

While directing UIDAI to hand over all the documents and information, the court also directed NIA not use such details for any purpose alien to investigation of the offences and prosecution of the offenders.

The NIA had sought details of Ashraful Mondal alias Ashraful Islam, Sobuj Shaik, Hridoy Babo alias Rifadul Islam Ruda, Rakibul Islam Sagar , Mohammad Babu, Rafsan Mondal alias Alami Hussain, Samit alias Dailm Ahamed Jillion, Mohammad Azim Choryor, Mohammad Jamal, Raihan Shaik, Rasul Khan, and Rocky Khan.

Viral video

They were arrested in June last year from a rented house in Ramamurthynagar police station limits after a video of gang-rape of a Bangladeshi woman went viral in Bangladesh and in Assam.

While a sessions court convicted some of them in May 2022 for gang rape based on the chargesheet filed by the city police, NIA, which took over the investigation on human trafficking and illegal immigration, filed a chargesheet against all of them.

The NIA, which expanded the scope of investigation to a larger conspiracy, sought information and documents from UIDAI for ascertaining the genuineness of the information and documents that led to generation of Aadhaar.

Cross-border trafficking

The High Court said that UIDAI was required to provide the details as NIA was probing the case that related to cross-border human trafficking and forcing vulnerable women from Bangladesh to prostitution in India by creating fake identification documents.

The court also pointed out that the Aadhaar Act, 2016, only mandated the court to hear the UIDAI before granting permission to provide confidential details; and there was no such compulsion in the Act to hear the persons concerned whose information was sought. "Insisting upon consent of the persons whose information is sought for, can be metaphorically equated to mosquitoes insisting upon consent for combat against malaria," the court observed.

All 12 Bangladesh nationals are at present lodged in Bengaluru Central Prison but they did not respond to the court's notice.

Gang of 10 arrested for stealing pigs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Chikkajala police have arrested a gang of 10 persons from Raichur who were allegedly stealing pigs and other domesticated animals from in and around the city. Based on a complaint, a team of police, led by Praveen M., tracked down the accused at Gangavathy toll gate.

In a bid to escape, the accused allegedly tried to run over the police party. However they were pinned down after a chase and were arrested. The accused have been identified as Shankar, 22, Ashok, 21, Ambanna, 21, Adiveppa, 22, Parashuram, 25, Basavaraju, 29, Manjunath, 33, Phakirappa, 31, and Nagappa, 27. The police recovered 78 pigs worth ₹20 lakh from them.

Based on their information, the police arrested Kiran, from Raichur, who was buying the animals from them and seized his bank account.

Earlier, the gang was allegedly involved in four such theft cases, including two in Doddaballapura police station limits and one each in Soladevanahalli and Magadi police station limiits.

Power supply to be affected today

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

There will be disruption in power supply on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the areas serviced from 66/11 kV Austin Town MUSS.

According to a release, the areas to be affected are: Richmond Road, Trinity Circle, M.G Road, Brigade Road, Castle Street, Ratna Avenue, Hayes Road, Residency Road, St. Marks Road, Lavelle Road, Brigade Road,Vittal Mallya Road, Wood Street, Magrath Road, Albert Street, Convent Road, Richmond Circle, Commisirate Road, Brunton Road, Ashoknagar, Markham Road, Bowee Lane, Museum Road, Madras Bank Road and surrounding areas.

Woman, among five, held for plotting murder of husband

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Peenya police have arrested a homemaker, her mother, and three of her associates for allegedly plotting to kill her husband, to live with her paramour.

The accused have been identified as Anupallavi, her mother Ammajamma, and the supari killers Harish, Mugilan, and Nagaraj. Another accused identified as Kannan is absconding and efforts are on to track him down, a police officer, said.

According to the police, Anupallavi had an affair with a businessman identified as Himavanth and allegedly decided to eliminate her husband, Ravikumar, a cab driver . Ammajamma also joined hands to get rid of Ravikumar and to live with Himavanth, who is well off and could take care of Anupallavi, the police alleged.

The trio allegedly hatched a plan and Himavanth paid supari to Harish and Nagaraj to eliminate Ravikumar. The duo in turn engaged Mugilan and Kannan for the job who hired Ravikumar's cab for a trip to Tamil Nadu, the police said.

The duo had a plan to kill him on the way, but dropped that idea. They offered Ravikumar liquor and after they got him drunk, the duo poured tomato sauce over him and made a video call to Harish and Nagaraj to claim they had killed him, the police said.

They then dumped Ravikumar in an isolated place and escaped with whatever money they had been paid in advance and along with the cab, the police added.

When Anupallavi was informed about the murder, she, as per the plan, filed a missing complaint with the police.

However, Himavanth was not happy with the development and feeling guilty and having a fear of getting caught ended his life, the police said.

Meanwhile, Ravikumar managed to return to the city and narrated the ordeal to the police. The police tracked down Mugilan, who revealed the plot.

Based on his confession, the police arrested the other accused and are investigating further.

Social Welfare Department &
Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department

Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Welfare Schemes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Application for the year 2022-2023 invited for the following schemes

Self-employment Schemes

To earn income by engaging eligible youths in various economic activities:
1) **Direct Loan:** For small income generating economic activities. The unit cost is Rs. 1.00 Lakh in this 50% Loan & 50% Subsidy.
2) **Entrepreneurship (ISB) scheme:**
i) **Purchase of E V and other two-wheelers (for delivery of goods to the customers under e-commerce)** Max. subsidy of Rs. 50,000/-, remaining amount Bank loan.
ii) **Entrepreneurship (ISB) activities:** Max. subsidy Rs. 2.00 Lakhs, remaining amount Bank loan.
iii) **For purchase of Goods carrying vehicle:** Max. subsidy Rs. 3.50 Lakhs, remaining amount Bank loan.

Micro Credit Scheme
To promote group economic activities the financial assistance will be sanctioned to women SHG's. A maximum of Rs. 2.50 Lakhs will be sanctioned. Out of which Rs. 1.50 Lakhs is subsidy & Rs. 1.00 Lakh is loan.

Land Purchase Scheme
Purchasing the agriculture land in the name of the landless women agriculture labourers. A minimum of 2.00 acres of dry land, 1 acres of wet land, 0.20 acres of garden land or maximum land available in the unit cost.

Ganga Kalyana Scheme
Providing irrigation facilities by drilling of borewells in the dry lands of small and marginal farmers.

Hon'ble Chief Minister **Sri Basavaraj S Bommai** & **Sri Kota Srinivasa Poojary**, Minister for Social Welfare & Backward Class Welfare participated in the inaugural programme of "Kalyanamithra Integrated SC / ST Helpline".

Hon'ble Chief Minister **Sri Basavaraj S Bommai** & **Sri B. Sriramulu,** Hon'ble Minister for Transportation & Scheduled Tribes Welfare in a Departmental Programme

The communities coming under respective Corporations can submit the applications online through the following portal: https://suvidha.karnataka.gov.in

For more details contact the District Offices and Websites of respective Corporations or **Kalyanamithra** SC/ST Integrated 24/7 Helpline **9482300400**

Spl. Note: (i) Applications under Boards and Govt. discretionary quota should also be submitted through Suvidha online portal only. (ii) Application should be submitted with in scheduled date. Applications received after the last date will not be accepted.

Last date for submission of Applications has been extended till 31-08-2022

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Development Corporation
http://adcl.karnataka.gov.in
The sub castes among SCs who comes under the purview of this Corporation & Nomadic Cell can submit the applications.

Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd.
https://kmvstdcl.karnataka.gov.in
The Castes coming under the purview of this Corporation & Nomadic Cell / Forest Based Tribes can submit the applications.

Karnataka Adijambava Development Corporation
https://adijambava.karnataka.gov.in

Karnataka Thanda Development Corporation
https://banjarathanda.kar.nic.in

Karnataka Bhovi Development Corporation
https://kbdc.karnataka.gov.in

Karnataka State Safai Karmachari Development Corporation
https://ksskdc.kar.nic.in
Identified Manual Scavengers / Safai Karmacharis and their dependents can submit the applications.

Managing Directors All Corporations
Commissioner Department of Social Welfare
Secretary to Government Department of Social Welfare

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BENGALURU

SATURDAY, AUG. 20
RISE 06:08 SET 18:38
RISE 00:10 SET 13:20

SUNDAY, AUG. 21
RISE 06:08 SET 18:37
RISE 00:55 SET 14:11

MONDAY, AUG. 22
RISE 06:08 SET 18:37
RISE 01:44 SET 15:03

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	31	20
Bengaluru	29	21

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant.Chances of light to moderate rain and thundershower.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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After a lull, H1N1 cases on the rise again in Karnataka

Last year only 13 H1N1 cases reported, but this year cases have shot up to 409 in the first eight months itself

Doctors say those with pre-existing lung disease such as asthma, bronchitis, and smoking-related chronic obstructive pulmonary disease are potential candidates for the Influenza vaccine. • FILE PHOTO

AFSHAN YASMEEN
BENGALURU

Along with a host of viral and vector-borne ailments, the State is also under the grip of H1N1 influenza. Last year, when the second wave of COVID-19 had overwhelmed the State's infrastructure, only 13 H1N1 cases were reported. However, this year cases have shot up to 409 in the first eight months itself.

According to data from the State Health and Family Welfare Department, a total of 458 H1N1 cases and three deaths were reported in 2020 when the pandemic began.

However, in 2021, cases reduced to 13 and doctors attributed the decline to increased surveillance and COVID-19 precautions such as use of masks and social distancing.

H1N1 influenza is a subtype of Influenza 'A' virus, a communicable viral illness which causes upper and, in some cases, lower respiratory tract infection. This results in symptoms such as nasal secretions, chills, fever, decreased appetite, and, in some cases, lower respiratory tract disease.

According to data, this year so far 1,621 samples have been tested (from January till August 19) of which 409 have tested positive. Last year, although 2,032 samples were tested, only 13 had tested positive.

Over 50% of this year's total H1N1 cases have been recorded in the last two months. Udupi has reported the highest number with 200 cases as H1N1 testing was done only at Manipal Centre for Virus Research (MCVR) for the first few months.

"Although there are 12 designated laboratories for H1N1 testing across the State, in the first quarter of 2022 testing was being done only in MCVR," sources said.

ILI/SARI testing

State Health Commissioner Randeep D. attributed the rise in cases to increased testing of primary contacts, especially in clusters and among ILI/SARI patients at hospitals.

"We have given standing instructions to hospitals to compulsorily test all ILI/SARI patients for H1N1, admit patients on time, and commence symptomatic treatment," he said.

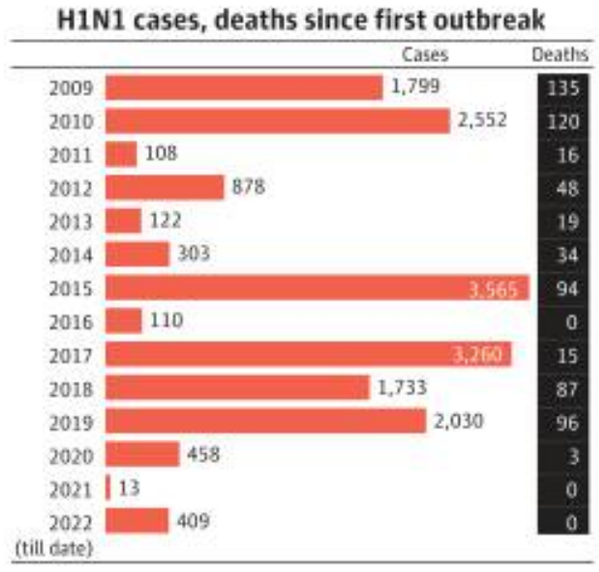
C. Nagaraja, director of the State-run Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases (RGICD), said the virus exhibits seasonality and there could be more cases during the winter and post monsoon months. "We have been regularly testing ILI/SARI patients for H1N1 if they test negative for COVID-19 as both these diseases have similar manifestations. Last year, cases were low because people largely followed COVID-19 appropriate behaviour. Now, complacency has set in. It is advisable people wear masks and maintain hand hygiene at least in crowded areas," he said.

Satyanarayana Mysore, chairman of the Department of Pulmonology at Manipal Hospitals, asserted the need for Influenza vaccination.

"Senior citizens and those with co-morbidities should speak to their healthcare providers if they are eligible for vaccination. Those with pre-existing lung disease such as asthma, bronchitis, and smoking-related chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are potential candidates for the Influenza vaccine," he said.

He said that there should be a gap of at least 30 days between the COVID-19 and the Influenza vaccinations.

H1N1 cases, deaths since first outbreak



82-year-old's murder cracked; six guards from Nepal held

Attackers gagged victim and stole ₹2.5 lakh

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The HSR Layout police have arrested six security guards from Nepal who murdered an 82-year-old woman on August 13 to rob ₹2.5 lakh in cash from her.

The accused are habitual offenders working as security guards in residential complexes around the city in day time and committing robbery in the night. The accused even moved around with fake identities to create an alibi in case of any eventualities and do not carry mobile phones during their activities, a police officer said.

The accused, Mukesh Khadak, 22, Kamal Dhami, 24, Keshav Budda, 42, Shivraj Kota, 63, Gajendra, 40 and Khadak Bahadur Singh, 40, hail from different parts of Nepal.

The modus operandi of the accused is to look out for vulnerable targets and get in as security guards. They recce the house before stealing or robbing the accused, and escape to their native Nepal. The accused Shivraj Kota has as many as 20 criminal cases pending against him.

The accused Khadak Singh, who works in an apartment, got to know about the victim, Jayashree, 82, residing in a two-storeyed house in Sector 1, 26th main, HSR Layout and rented out a part of the house for rent. She was living alone while her two sons stayed separately and were looking for a security guard. Khadak Singh alerted Keshav, who approached Jayashree and finalized the deal to work as security guard.

As part the plan, Keshav returned the next day with his associates, who soon after entering the house tied her hands and legs, and gagged her mouth, before ransacking the house for valuables.

The accused stole ₹2.5 lakh from the cupboard of a bedroom, and before getting into the second room, a tenant had returned from work and Jayashree started screaming. The accused in a hurry gagged her mouth again to stop her from screaming and escaped. Unable to breathe Jayashree died of asphyxiation.

The second room cupboard had ₹9 lakh and 260 g of gold. Jayashree was the wife of Srinivasan, retired as senior officer from Ministry of Home Affairs. After the death of Srinivasan, Jayashree was living alone while her elder son lived in Lingarajapuram while the younger son is living in Canada.

The murder came to light when the tenant noticed the front door was ajar and later found Jayashree lying dead. The police found vital leads from CCTV footage and special teams fanned out to different States and tracked down the accused.

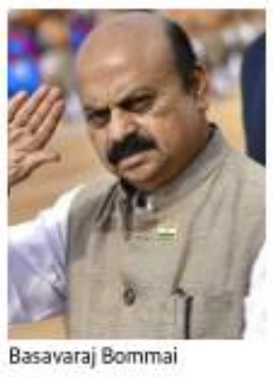
C.K. Baba, DCP (South East), advised people to follow due diligence while hiring the people from other States for security or domestic help. The people should get their antecedents checked thoroughly and collect all the details like phone number and ID cards before taking them for the job. Another important thing is to ask for a local reference from the employees before getting them a job, he said.

CM to open Kanaka Bhavan, other buildings tomorrow

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommaiwill inaugurate on Sunday various development projects, including the newly constructed Kanaka Bhavan, at Nagarbhavi in the city.

Speaking to reporters here on Friday, Housing Minister V. Somanna said Mr. Bommai will inaugurate a multi-purpose building constructed at a cost of ₹3 crore at Nayandahalli ward in the Govindarajanagar constituency in the city on Sunday.



Basavaraj Bommai

The building would accommodate a post office, a BBMP office, gym, parking and other facilities for the benefit of the public, Mr. Somanna said.

A newly constructed primary health centre at Chandra Layout would also be inaugurated on the same day. It was constructed at a cost of ₹2 crore.

The PHC building will have a small emergency ward, store room, a pharmacy shop and a surgery ward, he said. A PHC building constructed at Agrahara Dasarahalli and a housing complex at Nagarabhavi, too would be inaugurated by the Chief Minister on Sunday, he said.

BBMP to form 35 artificial tanks for immersion of Ganesha idols

Civic body also plans to set up 150 mobile tanks

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

With no restrictions on installation of Ganesha idols in public places this year – last two years it was restricted to one idol per ward due to the pandemic – the city's civic body is gearing up to handle the heavy load of idols at the tanks for immersion.

Over the past two years, the immersion load at the lakes was relatively low, but the civic body expects a return to pre-pandemic levels this year. • FILE PHOTO

The BBMP has planned to form artificial tanks at 35 lakes across the city, including Sankey and Ulsoor tanks. Over the past two years, the immersion load at the lakes was relatively low, but the civic body expects a return to pre-pandemic levels this year. The city usually sees over 1.2 lakh idols being immersed in its tanks every year.

In addition to these artificial tanks, BBMP has also called for tenders for 150 mobile tanks that will be arranged for immersion of small Ganesha idols at the ward level.

"We are planning to set up temporary mobile immersion tanks that will be placed in every ward of the city," a senior official said.

Help desks will also be available at all the immersion points for the public. BBMP will also coordinate with the police department and policemen will be deployed to avoid any untoward incidents during immersion. For immersion of large idols, cranes would be made available to the devotees near the lakes and immersion centres, a senior civic official said.

The BBMP is also planning to launch a crackdown on the use of idols made of plaster of Paris (POP) to minimise the environmental impact of the Ganesha festival, like very year. A plan of action to this effect will be drawn up along with Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) shortly, sources said.

"The rules and regulations would be formed consulting the KSPCB, especially on the POP idols. We will form teams to check the manufacturing and selling of such idols and seize it. Along with the pollution control board, we will be spreading awareness about eco-friendly festival at schools and colleges," a senior civic official said.

However, the removal of curbs on public celebrations has caused concern among health experts as Karnataka has been identified by the Centre as one of the States that is reporting a steady rise in COVID-19 cases.

An official from the BBMP health department said the festival will be held as per the guidelines issued by Technical Advisory Committee on COVID-19.

TAC guidelines for Ganesha festival

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State's COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has recommended that public celebration of Ganesha festival should be preferably be outdoors and with strict adherence to COVID protocols.

There should be provision for thermal screening at entry, social distancing of one metre, and availability of hand sanitisers at strategic places. Compulsory face masking throughout should be ensured and only fully / booster vaccinated persons should be encouraged to participate, according to TAC's report.

"Only asymptomatic people should be allowed to participate in public congregations and any symptomatic person found at the celebration should be referred for treatment. The gathering should be restricted to 500 persons for indoor public congregations and not more than 1,000 persons should be allowed for outdoor functions. Larger public congregations of more than the above numbers should not be permitted till there is a significant decline in the number of COVID cases in the State," the report stated.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that our client Sri Surpat Chouraria S/o late Sagar Mull Chouraria, No.160, "SAGAR" 4th Cross, 1st Block, 2nd Main, RMV 2nd Stage, BENGALURU – 560 094, is the absolute owner of property bearing Site No.81(A in Industrial Suburb II Stage, Bangalore. It is reported that the Original Possession Certificate No. PR/5/81-82 dated 07.07.1981 issued by BDA Bangalore was lost from their custody. In spite of the best efforts, the above Original Possession Certificate could not be traced till date.

My client **Sri Surpat Chouraria** has already lodged the police complaint online with Karnataka State Police under Lost Article Report vide Lost Report No.0293757/2022 date 16/08/2022. any person who finds the said missing document, is requested to inform or hand over the custody of the same immediately to our aforementioned client or the undersigned. accordingly he/she will be suitably rewarded.

The public at large is hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property on the basis of the original missing documents other than with its true owners. It is further notified that any such transactions entered into in respect to the said property shall be illegal and not be binding on our client which may kindly be noted.

LOKESH MURTHY.G. Advocate
No.4, 2nd Cross, 2nd Main,
Papareddypalya, Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage,
Bangalore-560072
slassociates6616@gmail.com
Mb. No. 9844754766

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby informed that my client proposes to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from its owner **Smt. P. Shoba W/o Manjunatha L.** The owner represents that, the Schedule Property is her self-acquired property, and she is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the same. Apart from her, there is/are no other person/s having any sort of right/s, title, interest/s or claim/s over the same and she has not either mortgaged, liened or encumbered the Schedule Property or part thereof in any manner. The owner further represents that, she has not entered into any sort of registered/ unregistered Agreement of Sale, MoU/MoA, GPA/Will, etc., with any third parties regarding conveyance/sale of the Schedule Property. That if, any person/s having objection /s or claim/s for the said purchase of the Schedule Property, he/she/they/it may/shall with documentary evidence lodge his /her/ their/ its claim/s **within Ten (10) days** from the date of publication of this notice with the undersigned, failing which, my client shall proceed to Purchase the Schedule Property, as if there is/are no claims over the same.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of Site Bearing No.3, House List Khata No.58/32/2, measuring East to West: 100 feet and North to South : 52+43/2 feet, in all measuring 4750 square feet, situated at Sonnenahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Presently BBMP, Bangalore and bounded as follows

EAST : T.Srinivasa Reddy's Property.
WEST : Road.
NORTH : Property of Paparna.
SOUTH : Property of Meenakshamma.

Sd/- JYOTHI HP & CO.
Advocates and Legal Consultants
99/A, 1 Floor, 'Sri Rama Arcade', 6th Cross,
16th Main Road, Industries & Commerce Layout,
Vijayanagar, Bangalore – 560 040.
Mobile Nos.9880853751 & 9353758718.
Place: Bangalore, Date 20/08/2022

BANGALORE RURAL ZILLA PANCHAYATH
Office of Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division,
Bangalore Rural, Anand Rao Circle, Bangalore – 560009

No.EE/PRED/BNG(R)/TND No-05/AE-1/2022-23 Date: 19.08.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO.05/2022-23
DATED: 19.08.2022 (THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL)

Tender is invited through e-procurement by Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Bangalore Rural under different head of account work. The work details can be obtained from the e-procurement website: **(https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in).** The Tender Documents can be obtained and submitted **on or before dated: 29.08.2022 upto 4.00 PM.** Further details contact this office during working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division,
Bangalore Rural Dist, Bangalore

DIPR/CP/Advt/1861/2022-23

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer-4, SWM Division,
2nd Floor, Annex Building-3, BBMP Head Office,
N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: EE-4/SWM/TEND/07/2022-23 **Date: 19-08-2022**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer-4, SWM, BBMP invites bids from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP / KPWD / CPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Government Organization for the construction of works detailed below.
(Standard Tender Document - KW-4)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Amount put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD
1	C&D Waste Removal from public space and enforcement to check C&D Waste related pollution - Identification of public place for C&D Removal and then it's safe disposal as per rules with C&D Waste Collection Vehicles fitted with GPS - **Package-1**	809.00	**Rs. 1,00,000/-** through e-Payment under of the following i.e., Online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance **Rs. 7,09,000/-** by Bank Guarantee / FDR issued by Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank.
2	C&D Waste Removal from public space and enforcement to check C&D Waste related pollution - Identification of public place for C&D Removal and then it's safe disposal as per rules with C&D Waste Collection Vehicles fitted with GPS - **Package-2**	990.00	**Rs. 1,00,000/-** through e-Payment under of the following i.e., Online / RTGS / NEFT / OTC and the balance **Rs. 8,90,000/-** by Bank Guarantee / FDR issued by Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank.

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Document may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Portal Website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in upto 03-09-2022, 16.00 Hrs.** 2) Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **26-08-2022 at 15.00 Hrs. at Office of the Chief Engineer, Solid Wate Management, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.** 3) Last Date for Submission of Tender Document **on or before 16.00 Hrs on 03-09-2022.** 4) Techno-Commercial tender will be Opened through e-Portal only on **05-09-2022 after 16.30 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer-4, Solid Waste Management, BBMP.

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Arera Govt. Hospital Campus, Arumbakkam, Chennai – 600 106. E-mail: crisiddha-a-gmail.com
Phone: 044-26214933, 26214899, Web: http://crisiddha.tn.nic.in

Personal / Virtual Interview

Applications are invited for the selection of Junior Research Fellow (Chemistry) - One at SCRI, Chennai and Data Entry Operator - One at NIS, Chennai for RRDR project- Southern Plateau (RRDR-SP) through Personal / Virtual Interview which will be held on the date to be notified later. The last date for submission of the online application is 03.09.2022 (05.00. P.M.). Details are available in the website **www.siddhacouncil.com and www.crisiddha.tn.nic.in.**

Assistant Director (Siddha) & I/C

Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre
(An Autonomous Body under Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India.)
Amravati Road, Wadi, Nagpur- 440 023. www. jnarddc.gov.in

भर्ती सूचना / Recruitment Notice - JNARDDC

Advt. No. 01/2022 (Aug-2022)

JNARDDC, Nagpur a "Centre of Excellence" for research in the field of bauxite, alumina and aluminium invites applications from Indian nationals for the following posts.

Post & Upper age limit	Essential Qualification and Experience
Head of Department / HoD **Level-13 (1,18,500)** **UR (One post)** **Age limit – 45 years** (as on the date of issue of this advertisement) Age limit - not applicable for internal candidates	**Essential :** 1) First class degree in Engineering in Chemical / Metallurgy / Material Science or 1st class Master's degree in Chemistry from a recognised university or institution or equivalent. 2) Ten years experience, out of which five years would be in a responsible supervisory capacity in the relevant area, i.e. bauxite evaluation/alumina production research /aluminium electrolysis downstream processing /analytical research or general services, instrumentation and control in a reputed aluminium industry or laboratory/university of repute. **Desirable:** Master's in Engineering Or Doctorate degree in the subject concerned. Experience would be relaxed by two years for Master in Engineering / Technology degree holders, three years for PhD in Science and four years for PhD in Engineering.

Applications have to submitted online only. Detailed terms and conditions are available in the Centre's website **www.jnarddc.gov.in** under the sub-head Career. Application fees is Rs.500/-, (SC/ST/PWD/Ex-Servicemen candidates are exempted from payment of fees).
The last date for submission of online applications is **21 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in Employment News.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intend to purchase the schedule property from its present owners **Smt. Bharathi W/o Sri. Ramesh Chand, aged about 38 years residing at #278, Ramdev Nivas, M.G Road, Near Basavanagudi Temple, Kanakapura Town - 562117 and Smt. Pani Devi W/o Sri. Amara Ram, aged about 30 years residing at Gram Bilawas, Bilawas Pali, BEELAWAS, Rajasthan 306 104.** Smt. Bharathi and Smt. Pani Devi states to our clients that they have acquired the schedule property from its previous Owners for a valuable consideration and further states to our client that they are the absolute owners in possession and enjoyment of the schedule property without any let or hindrance from anyone. Smt. Bharathi and Smt. Pani Devi states to our clients that they have not entered in to any Joint Development Agreement, Sale Agreement whatever with any one nor they have executed any Power of Attorney to anyone in respect of the schedule property and that the schedule property is free of encumbrance. Further they state to our client that the schedule property is their self-acquired property.
Anyone having any right, title, interest or claim whatever in respect of the schedule property shall register their claim or objection in writing to the undersigned along with all the necessary documents within **SEVEN days,** otherwise our client will proceed with purchase of the schedule property and no claims whatever will be entertained thereafter in any manner.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

Item No.1:-
All that piece and parcel of residentially converted immovable property bearing **Survey No.119/10 (Old Sy. No.119/1),** totally measuring an extent of **3.00.12 Acres** situated at Gokare Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Chikkaballapur District and bounded on the;
East by : Road & Land bearing Sy.No.119/2,119/5, **West by :** Land bearing Sy. No.130 & 118, **North by :** Land bearing Sy.No.120 & 130, **South by :** Land bearing Sy.No.116

Item No.2:-
All that piece and parcel of residentially converted immovable property bearing **Survey No.119/2 (Old Sy. No.119),** totally measuring an extent of **0.11.12 Guntas** situated at Gokare Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Chikkaballapur District and bounded on the;
East by : Road, **West by :** Land bearing Sy. No.119/1, **North by :** Land bearing Sy.No.120, **South by :** Land bearing Sy.No.119/5

Item No.3:-
All that piece and parcel of residentially converted immovable property bearing **Survey No.119/8 (Old Sy. No.119/5),** totally measuring an extent of **0-01 Guntas** situated at Gokare Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Chikkaballapur District and bounded on the;
East by : Road, **West by :** Land bearing Sy. No.119/1, **North by :** Land bearing Sy.No.119/2, **South by :** Road.

K.S. Raghuram B.Com., L.L.B., **Advocate**
Per Legal: #524, 10th Main, 33rd Cross, IV Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560 011
M : 9844109456, email : prolegalblr@gmail.com
Bangalore Date : 20-08-2022

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Panchamasali quota: HC stops panel from proceeding further

Backward castes' federation has questioned legality of committee's constitution

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has restrained a High-Level Committee (HLC), headed by a retired judge of the court, from proceeding further at present on the issue of whether Panchamasali Lingayat sub-sect – which is presently in the Category 3B of the caste-based reservation list – can be included in Category 2A of the list.

A Division Bench comprising Justice B. Veerappa and Justice K.S. Hemalekha passed the interim order on a petition filed by the Karnataka State Backward Castes' Federation, Bengaluru.

A file photo of protest by Panchamasali Lingayat community.

Question framed

The petition, filed in February this year, had initially come up for hearing before a Single Judge, who in March said that matter involved questions of public importance and required consideration by a Division Bench. The Single Judge had framed a question for consideration by the Division Bench. The question is: "When the inclusion of any class of citizens as a backward class in the lists and hear complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in such lists is covered/occupied by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1995, whether the State in its executive power could constitute a committee to examine whether Panchamasali Lingayat sub-sect (which is presently in Category 3B) can be included in Category 2A, and if so, under what circumstances?"

When the petition came up for hearing on August 12, the Division Bench passed the interim order stating that "the HLC for examination of reservation is directed not to proceed further with regard to Panchamasali-Lingayat sub-sect till further orders."

The State government on March 10, 2021, set up the three-member HLC, headed by Subhash B. Adi, a retired judge of the High Court, to examine the demands for reservations made by various communities in the State. Later, the government on July 1, 2021 issued the terms of reference to the committee. One of the terms of reference is, "Whether the Panchamasali-Lingayat sub-sect (which is presently in Category 3B) can be included in Category 2A and if so, under what circumstances?"

Petitioner's claim

However, the petitioner-federation has contended that the government has no competency or jurisdiction to constitute the HCL under an Executive Order when the matter of inclusion of any class of citizens, over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward classes in such lists is occupied/covered by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1995.

'Extra-statutory'

Pointing out that no provision of law is quoted nor indicated in the Government Order of March 2021 on setting up the HLC, it was argued on behalf of the petitioner that inclusion or exclusion of any class in backward classes list is the exclusive jurisdiction of the body constituted under the 1995 Act and hence the HLC, as "extra-statutory committee" has no place or competency to undertake the exercise assigned to it.

Further hearing on the petition has been adjourned till August 24.

Muzrai Department calls applications for Bababudangiri shrine management panel

The eight-member committee to have both Hindus and Muslims

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HASSAN

The Department of Religious Institutions and Endowments has invited applications from people of both Hindu and Muslim communities to be members of the management committee of 'Sri Guru Dattatreya Bababudan Swamy Dargah'. The eight-member committee will include two women and there should be at least one member from the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe each.

The notification was released on August 17 as per the Government Order issued on July 19. This followed the recommendations of the Cabinet sub-committee headed by Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J.C. Madhuswamy. People aged 25 or above, "who have faith in god", can apply for the committee. The applicants should have a track record of good conduct. The Cabinet sub-committee on Sri Guru Dattatreya Bababudan Swamy Dargah issue had recommended the appointment of both a priest and a *mujawar* to perform rituals at the shrine.

A file photo of Sri Guru Dattatreya Bababudan Swamy Dargah in Chikkamagaluru district.

To contest notification

However, this notification has not gone well with Ghouse Mohiyuddin Shah Khadri, the hereditary administrator of the shrine, who has been fighting in courts to retain his hold on the shrine venerated by both Hindus and Muslims. He told *The Hindu* that the government had issued an order on the Cabinet sub-committee's recommendation, even as a hearing of his petition on the issue was pending in the Karnataka High Court. "The government should have waited until the final order. We will contest this notification in court," he said.

BACKGROUND

The previous Congress government issued an order on March 19, 2018, stating that the rituals that were prevailing at the shrine on August 15, 1947, the day when India got Independence, should be continued at the shrine.

The order was challenged by Sri Gurudattatreya Peeta Devasthana Samvardhana Samiti in the High Court. The court quashed the government's order on September 28, 2021, and directed the State government to look into the controversy afresh. As per the order, the State government constituted the Cabinet sub-committee, which held hearings in Chikkamagaluru and received objections from the interested parties.

However, Shah Khadri had filed a writ petition challenging the High Court order. The court, in its interim order on May 31, 2022, directed the government to take a decision on the issue and bring it to the notice of the court. Shah Khadri and his advocate Mohammed Ahmed said that the government had not followed the court's direction.

Mudhol hounds join elite protection force on trial

Canine research centre hands over two pups to SPG

RISHIKESH BAHADUR DESAI
BELAGAVI

India's elite protection force, the Special Protection Group, which guards very very important persons (VVIPs), including the Prime Minister and Central Ministers, is the latest entrant in the list of agencies trying to induct the Mudhol hounds.

The Canine Research and Information Centre (CRIC) of the Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University (KVAFSU) handed over two pups to the SPG authorities who visited the centre a few weeks ago. The SPG will raise and train the litter and induct them on an experimental basis.

With this, the CRIC has supplied puppies to the remount veterinary corps of the Indian Army, Indian Air Force, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Seema Suraksha Bal, and Central Industrial Security Force, apart from several State government agencies. Outposts and vigilance squads of the Police and Forest departments in Karnataka are also engaging Mudhols.

"The canine units of these agencies are breeding and training our pups. We have received very positive feedback from all these agencies. Several agencies have come back to us for more dogs," Sushant Hande, director, CRIC, told *The Hindu*. Unlike other popular breeds of dogs, the Mudhols are sighthounds. They can notice the minutest movement from 2 km away. The CRIC issues pups after verifying the genealogy and after implanting a microchip under the collar of each dog. This lets the handlers track the animal's movements and health.

"The CRIC was the first agency in the State to win the Make In India award for indigenising the process of induction of dogs into security agencies," recalled B.V. Shivaprakash, director of research, KVAFSU. The experience of the Indian Army was so successful that it created awareness among other agencies about the unique native breed and the contribution of the CRIC.

A file photo of Minister Govind Karjol handing over Mudhol pups to Indian Air Force officers.

"Mudhol dogs have broken the national testing standards set by the government for induction into various security agencies. Our native breeds have higher tenacity, and disease resistance than exotic breeds. Their adaptability to changing environmental conditions is also larger than others. We have studies and records to prove this," Prof. Shivaprakash said.

Prof. Shivaprakash said the centre plans to expand its research and development activities. "We are presently focussed on the protection of the native habitat, and propagation of the breed by working with the breeders. However, in the next phase, we will take up genetic studies to map the genes of the breed," he said. The centre was established at Thimmapur village near Mudhol in Bagalkot district.

"The word Mudhol has attained such a brand value that it has become a byword for agility, speed, and vigilance. That may be the reason why the Central Excise and Customs Vigilance Department chose the name 'Mudhol' for its newsletter. We feel proud of it," said Basavaraj Nelagave, commissioner, GST, Belagavi range.

A cross-breed

Developed and patronised by the Mudhol kings in the early 20th century, the Mudhol is a cross between the Afghanistan Caravani hound and local breeds. The kings granted large tracts of land to the Chandanashiva family in Mudhol, asking them to protect and propagate the breed. Now, several landless farm families in Mudhol taluk breed the dogs. The CRIC awards certificates of authentic parentage to the breeders, and procures the pups from them to be sold to buyers.

From SC/ST funds

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BELAGAVI

Suresh Honnappagol, the former Vice-Chancellor of the KVAFSU, established the Canine Research and Information Centre (CRIC) using funds meant for SC/ST welfare in 2011.

This was because most of the breeders were from these communities. "We ensured that the revenue earned through the CRIC activities such as certification and procurement were shared with the breeders. This has more than doubled the income of an average breeder, Prof. Honnappagol said.

State govt. will clear pending power dues: Sunil Kumar

Karnataka among 13 States barred from buying or selling electricity from spot market

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Energy Minister V. Sunil Kumar on Friday said the State government would soon clear pending dues of ₹355 crore to power generators.

The Union Power Ministry on Thursday barred 13 States, including Karnataka, from buying or selling electricity from the spot market for not clearing dues of ₹5,085 crore to power generators.

Mr. Kumar told *The Hindu* that the pending dues were a "routine matter" and the department would clear them in a few days.

The Power System Operation Corporation (POSOCO), a body of the Power Ministry, invoked the Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge and Related Matters) Rules, 2022, to bar power distribution companies (Discoms) from alternative short-term sources. Discoms of four States in the south – Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Karnataka – are among those on the ban list.

Karnataka owes ₹355 crore to power generators. • FILE PHOTO

The Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge and Related Matters) Rules, 2022, which was notified this June mandates Discoms to pay a late payment surcharge (LPS) on the outstanding amount after the due date of payment.

Review PPAs

Meanwhile, "unscientific" power purchase agreements (PPAs) have come to light in the Energy Department of the State and the Minister has decided to seek a legal opinion on the matter. Many of these PPAs had been widely signed during the previous Congress government's tenure, sources in the Energy Ministry said. Escoms have been financially burdened following "unscientific" PPAs, sources said.

The PPAs have been signed to purchase power at a rate more than the prevailing rates in the market since 2010. The department has decided to audit the accounts of the PPAs.

All managing directors of Escoms have been instructed to review the PPAs signed for the purchase of power at a price of more than ₹5 per unit. Some PPAs have been signed for a period of 25 years for the purchase of power at ₹8.5 per unit to ₹10 per unit and this caused a huge financial burden on Escoms, sources said. Though the prevailing rate in the market for power has come down, the Escoms have been purchasing power as per the PPAs at a higher price.

'Keep tourism circuits ready for inauguration before festive season'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai instructed officials of the Tourism Department to keep ready for the inauguration of the Mysuru tourism circuit during Dasara and the Hampi circuit during Deepavali.

He also told officials to give priority to provide basic amenities at all tourism spots and provide publicity to increase the footfall of tourists to Karnataka in the coming days. These circuits must also include adventure sports and entertainment activities, he said.

Mr. Bommai reviewed the progress of the Tourism Department here on Friday and said tourism played a vital role in the State economic progress and promotion of culture. As announced in State Budget, the tourism circuits of Mysuru-Belur-Halebid and Hampi-Badami-Aihole-Pattadakal must be developed, he said.

He said the government had formulated guidelines for adoption and maintenance of monuments as announced in the Budget.

Details of the monuments and expenditure must be prepared and website created. He would write to all corporate companies about the monument adoption scheme, he said.

Under 'Parvatha Maala' and the State government schemes, he would discuss with Deputy Commissioners and Forest Department officials to complete land acquisition process at the earliest for the proposed ropeway at Nandi Hills, Yaana, Anjanadri Hill, Mullayanagiri, and Bababudangiri. To promote environment-friendly tourism in the coastal area, the government had submitted a proposal to the Centre to simplify CRZ rules, he said.

CM inspects construction work on Tirumala

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
TIRUMALA

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Friday inspected the construction of new choultries, or inns, on Tirumala.

The Karnataka government has deposited ₹200 crore with the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams for the construction of new blocks on a six-acre site leased out to it several decades ago, and will hand them back within the stipulated time to enable it to meet the requirements of pilgrims from Karnataka.

Visits temple

TTD Chairman Y.V. Subba Reddy assured Mr. Bommai that the construction of the Kalyana Mandapam and the first block would be complete by January end, and the rest soon after. Earlier, Mr. Bommai paid a visit to the temple of Lord Venkateswara where he was accorded a traditional reception by TTD Executive Officer A.V. Dharma Reddy, who facilitated him with darshan of the deity.

The former Chief Minster B.S. Yediyurappa, Endowments Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri were among those who accompanied the Chief Minister.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

T.K. GURUSAMY (95) Retd. Director of Survey of India Passed away on 19.08.22 AT 2.30 p.m. Last rites will be held at B-11, Sastri Road, Thillai Nagar, Tiruchi on Sunday 21st Aug 2022. Deeply mourned by Dr. Col.G. Kumar, G.Raghavan,G. Madhavan, G. Nataraj, Daughter-in-law Poornima, Usha, Akhila and Jayashree & Grandchildren.

REMEMBRANCE

Birth Centenary Remembrance
PROF G. RAMAKRISHNAN

20.8.1922 10.1.2015

Fondly remembered by
Family, Colleagues, Students
For e-memoir contact:
ProfGR.Memoir@gmail.com
SUDHA MOHAN RADHA RAMESH

DEATH

SAD DEMISE

Birth: 12.12.1935 Demise: 17.08.2022

With profound grief we inform the sad demise of our beloved father
Siruvalai N. Gokulabalan
Retd SDE (Telecom)
on 17.08.2022
Dasasu on 26.08.2022
at T. Nagar Gnanasabi.
Deeply mourned by family members.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

14th ANNIVERSARY

R.NIRMALA
Husband: T.Ranganathan
Daughter, Son, Son-in-law, Daughter-in-law & Grandchildren
ALWAYS LIVING WITH US

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No.SEE/WMC/TKR/2276-78 Dated: 19.08.2022

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
(E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

KPTCL invites tenders against Bid Enq. No.SEE/TR(W&M)/TKR/EE(O)/AEE-3/Enq-01/dated:13.07.2022/CALL-2 for providing Intermediate Tower (DA+3) & (DA+0) to B3 & B4 DC 220KV line at location bearing Tower No. 717 to 718 Madenoor gate limits in Tiptur Taluk to prevent electrical accidents and rectification of Hazardous location pertains to Tumakuru, TLM Sub-division in Tumakuru Division.

The detailed Information regarding enquiries in E-procurement portal can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in on hyperlink "e-procurement" or https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after **22.08.2022**. Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, (Ele.), Trans (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Siddaganga Complex, B.H.Road, Tumakuru -2. Ph: 0816-2955095.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
KNNL, Shiggaon Lift Irrigation Division, K.C.D. Circle , Behind Ganapati Temple, Dasanakoppa Main Road, Dharwad-580 001.
E-mail id: eesliddwd@gmail.com Ph: 0836-2461218

No.KNNL/SLID/DWD/PB/4701-Samudaybhavan/Tender/2022-23/649 Date :17-08-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH "e-Procurement " ONLY)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bengaluru , Percentage tenders are invited in Single cover system from eligible tenderers by the undersigned, for the work of "Construction of 70 No's of Samudaya Bhavan (Tender amount **minimum Rs.12.60 Lakhs & maximum Rs. 12.71 Lakhs**) under head of A/c 4701- M & MI- Shiggaon/Savanur LIS through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka. The blank tender documents can be obtained through website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from **29/08/2022 @ 11.00 a.m.** onwards and the completed e-tendering documents can be **submitted up to 16/09/2022 @ 4.00 p.m. The financial bids** will be opened on **17/09/2022 @ 4.30 p.m.**

Any Addendum/Corrigendum shall be published in the e-Procurement portal only. The undersigned reserves the right to postpone, accept, reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

(S.K.KULKARNI)
Executive Engineer
KNNL, SLI Division, Dharwad

IN BRIEF

Govt. moves HC to cancel Civic Chandran's bail

KOCHI

The Kerala government on Friday filed an appeal before the Kerala High Court seeking to set aside an order of the Kozhikode sessions court granting anticipatory bail to writer and social activist Civic Chandran in a sexual assault case. The prosecution case was that on April 16, 2022, the complainant had arranged a function in connection with her book publishing. On April 17, the accused sexually assaulted the complainant and outraged her modesty with the knowledge that she belonged to a Scheduled Caste.

2 killed, 9 hurt in blast at A.P. sugar refinery

KAKINADA

Two workers died on the spot and nine others sustained burns in a blast at a conveyor belt that took place reportedly due to short circuit, in Parry Sugars refinery at Vakalapudi in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, on Friday. "Around 11 a.m., a blast was reported at the conveyor belt in the refinery. Two workers died on the spot with severe burns. One worker is battling for life. Eight workers suffered injuries but are out of danger, the police said.

Inspector held for keeping loot at home

He received it from his relative, who is one of the accused persons in Fedbank heist in Tamil Nadu

R. SIVARAMAN
CHENNAI

A police inspector at Acharapakkam was arrested by the Chennai city police on the charge of receiving gold jewellery from an accused person, who is his relative and was involved in the gold heist at Fedbank Financial Services at Arumbakkam last Saturday, and of concealing it for three days.

Amalraj, the inspector at Acharapakkam in Chengalpattu district, and his wife were under the surveillance of a team investigating the Arumbakkam case after their relative M. Santhosh, 30, was arrested for looting the bank.

On Sunday, the police arrested V. Balaji, 28, of Villivakkam and Santhosh near the Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus. They were associates of the main accused M. Murugan. Santhosh confessed that he had stayed at Amalraj's house at Melmaruvathur after committing the offence and left behind a part of the booty for safe custody.

T.S. Anbu, Additional Commissioner of Police, North, said Santhosh had taken along a major portion of the looted jewellery.

"In pursuance of our investigation, we have recovered six-and-a-half kg of jewellery from Amalraj's house. According to his confession and our investigation, the inspector knew that Santhosh was involved in the heist after he came to his home. But he was fully aware that the jewellery Santhosh gave him was at his house for three days. Based on our recommendation, he was placed under suspension. On Friday, we arrested him since it is an offence to conceal the loot," Mr. Anbu said.

The inspector was remanded in judicial custody.

All the looted jewellery (31.700 kg) had been recovered, the police said.

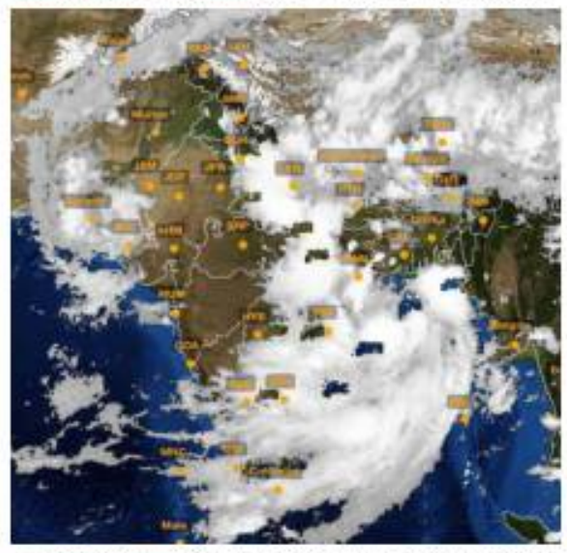
Seven arrested

The police also arrested Srivatsan in Coimbatore, who helped to buy a machine to melt the jewellery. So far, seven persons have been arrested in the case.

Police officials with the recovered jewellery in Chennai on Friday. • VEDHAN M.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 16.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at a few/isolated places over Chandigarh, Uttarakhand, Assam, Meghalaya, Odisha, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, central Maharashtra, Vidarbha and Konkan & Goa. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Delhi, Bihar, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	–	34.6	25.8	Kozhikode	–	31.4	24.6
Ahmedabad	11	32.0	25.0	Kurnool	–	33.4	25.7
Aizawl	–	31.4	22.6	Lucknow	–	35.4	27.0
Allahabad	–	34.4	26.8	Madurai	19	35.6	23.8
Bengaluru	–	28.9	21.1	Mangaluru	4.2	29.4	22.4
Bhopal	–	29.0	23.0	Mumbai	6	30.5	25.4
Bhubaneswar	18	29.8	24.4	Mysuru	–	32.0	21.6
Chandigarh	–	33.9	27.5	New Delhi	–	35.7	26.7
Chennai	–	35.0	27.8	Patna	–	34.4	29.2
Coimbatore	–	32.3	23.6	Port Blair	0.7	30.2	25.8
Dehradun	9	31.5	24.9	Puducherry	32	31.8	21.8
Gangtok	32.4	22.6	18.3	Pune	3	27.6	21.5
Goa	3	31.0	24.3	Raipur	0.4	33.0	26.0
Guwahati	–	37.4	27.5	Ranchi	5	29.2	23.5
Hubballi	–	28.0	22.0	Shillong	9	27.1	18.8
Hyderabad	26	30.6	22.5	Shimla	0.7	24.0	20.6
Imphal	5	29.0	21.2	Srinagar	–	32.6	18.6
Jaipur	–	33.2	25.4	Thiruvananthapuram	–	32.2	25.2
Kochi	–	29.6	26.0	Tiruchi	–	35.7	26.0
Kohima	–	28.0	18.2	Vijayawada	5	32.3	24.6
Kolkata	1	31.0	26.5	Visakhapatnam	–	29.7	28.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	38	23	34	42	72	
Bengaluru	7	19	50	38	107	
Chennai	41	36	33	41	68	
Delhi	26	60	73	49	231	
Hyderabad	10	2	124	23	59	
Kolkata	9	12	15	30	50	
Lucknow	8	10	67	40	61	
Mumbai	6	10	100	35	40	
Pune	–	44	103	–	–	
Visakhapatnam	10	47	30	60	102	

In observations made at 4.00 p.m., Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 188 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Davanagere, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 19

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Distribution of Onam food kit from Aug. 23

Kits contain 14 items, including rice, sugar, and coconut oil

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala government will be distributing free Onam food kits containing 14 items to ration card holders from August 23 to September 7.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan will formally inaugurate the distribution here on August 22, Minister for Food and Civil Supplies G.R. Anil said on Friday.

The contents of the kits include 500 grams of rice (unakkalari), 1 kg sugar, 500 gm green gram, 250 gm toor dal, 1 kg salt, Milma ghee, cashew nuts, chilli powder, turmeric powder, cardamom, 500 ml coconut oil, 'sharkaravaratti'/chips, and tea powder. Mr. Anil requested the cardholders to avoid using the ration card portability system for collecting their kits as the shops will be issued a limited number of kits.

Ban on IEX trading despite HC stay order: Telangana discoms

'Move taken without any reconciliation of payments made'

B. CHANDRASHEKHAR
HYDERABAD

The managements of power utilities of Telangana (Discoms) have alleged that they were banned from participating in the Indian Energy Exchange (IEX) for procuring energy on grounds of non-payment of dues to Gencos despite making payments.

"The National Load Dispatch Centre (NLDC) has imposed ban on our bidding (participation) in energy procurement without even reconciling the accounts with the Gencos concerned. We have cleared ₹1,360 crore out of ₹1,381 crore dues mentioned by the agency even before we were banned unilaterally," a senior executive of one of the utilities said on Friday.

Even for the remaining amount, they could have a served a notice for payment. However, the NLDC had unilaterally decided to impose ban and it was very much unfortunate as the agency was acting beyond its mandate as per the Electricity Act, 2003, which is in force now.

"As per the 2003 Act, the agency has to monitor and maintain only the grid discipline and it is not supposed to involve in any commercial activity such as its present unilateral decision," the executive explained.

'Contempt of court'

The accounts/figures based on which the ban was imposed were also wrong and misleading as the default amount was arrived at without any reconciliation of payments made by the Telangana utilities. The ban was imposed despite a High Court stay in the matter. "It would actually amount to contempt of court," he pointed out.

"A statement generated by the Ministry of Power today (Friday) morning for accounts of payments to Gencos by Discoms till August 18, put the outstanding amount of Telangana utilities at only ₹52.85 crore. Based on information on payment made by us, they have deleted several items (amounts) and the MoP has also sent the information to NLDC," the executive said.

There would be no role for NLDC after a power purchase deal is signed between a Genco and a Discom. However, the NLDC was being brought in to control State utilities by the Centre/MoP indirectly, in spite of power being in the Concurrent List, he added.

As the passage of Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022, which has the provision to empower NLDC, is put on hold for the time being the MoP has adopting new tactics to circumvent the delay in the passage of the Bill.

Gandhi's ideals are more relevant today: CJI Ramana

He releases Telugu version of *My Experiments with Truth*

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
TIRUPATI

Satyasodhana (*My Experiments with Truth*), the autobiography of Mahatma Gandhi, dwells on the transformation of a common man into a noble-hearted legend, and is hence more relevant in today's turbulent times, observed Chief Justice of India Justice N.V. Ramana.

Speaking after releasing the latest Telugu version of the book brought out by Tirupati MLA and literary activist Bhumana Karunakar Reddy on Friday, he called the Mahatma's autobiography a time-tested account of contemporary situations which would make for a relevant read at any point of time. Calling it 'a moment of pride' to be the successors of Gandhi, he wanted every Indian to carry forward the cherished ideals of the Mahatma. TTD Executive Officer A.V. Dharma Reddy received a copy of the book.

Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana at a book release function in Tirupati on Friday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Student's protest using petrol goes awry; three injured in fire

STAFF REPORTER
HYDERABAD

Three persons, including a staff member and principal of Narayana Junior College at Ramanthapur in Hyderabad, suffered burn injuries after a student leader who allegedly doused himself with petrol to threaten the staff regarding an issue accidentally caught fire, on Friday.

Akhila Bharatiya Vidya Parishad leader Sandeep reportedly suffered severe burn injuries and was admitted to the intensive care unit. College principal Sudhakar Reddy and administrative officer Ashok Reddy also suffered injuries in the incident.

According to the Amberpet police, the issue was regarding non-issuance of transfer certificate of a recently passed student due to pending dues. Police said Sai Narayana who had completed his Intermediate Second year from Narayana College, Ramanthapur, in June, had come to the college with ABVP leaders reportedly to put pressure on the management. Around 12.30 p.m., they entered the principal's chamber and got into a verbal exchange.

"Sandeep, who was carrying petrol in a small bottle, doused himself to threaten the principal. But accidentally, he caught fire from a small lamp placed before a deity on the table there.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-Procurement mode only)

K.P.T.C.L. invites tenders through e-Procurement mode from the reputed Electrical Contractors possessing Super Grade Electrical contractor License having PF registration for the works :

No. SEE/EE(O)/AEEE-1/2022-23/F-3144-149 **Date : 17.08.2022**

1) Tender No.: KPTCL/2022-23/EL/WORK_INDENT9469/CALL-2 for Estimate for strengthening of EHT line passing on school premises in Govt school and college Halageri, 220KV Multi circuit line of SS-1, 2 and ST-1, 2 line, TLI section Jog, Talaguppa location No. 34A & 35A.

No. SEE/EE(O)/AEEE-1/2022-23/F-3150-155 **Date : 17.08.2022**

2) Tender No.: KPTCL/2022-23/EL /WORK_INDENT9543/CALL-2. Combined Package for the following works (1) Replacement of 1 no's "DA+0 by Tower(DB+6) at Location No:130 of 220KV S-1 & 2 DC Line maintain vertical clearance at Location No 129-130 between bottom conductor and ground near Kanagodu limits in Anandapura Transmission Lines Section, on TLSD, Jog Falls,in 400KV SSM Division Talaguppa, Tr. (W&M) Circle,Shivamogga. **(2)** Providing One No.of 220KV DC intermediate Tower(DB+6) between Location No:253-254 of 220KV S-1 & 2 DC Line maintain vertical clearance between bottom conductor and ground near Kumsi limits in Anandapura Transmission Lines Section, on TLSD, Jog Falls in 400KV SSM Division Talaguppa, Tr. (W&M) Circle, Shivamogga. **(3)** Providing One No.of 220KV DC intermediate Tower (DB+3) between Location No.159-160 of 220KV S-1&2 DC Line maintain vertical clearance between bottom conductor and ground near Hosuru limits in Anandapura Transmission Lines Section Sagar, on TLSD, Jog Falls, in 400KV SSM Division Talaguppa, Tr. (W&M) Circle, Shivamogga. **(4)** Providing One No.of 220KV DC intermediate Tower (DB+6) between Location No:224-226 of 220KV S-3 & S- 4 DC Line maintain vertical clearence between bottom conductor and ground near Tuppuru limits in Anandapura Transmission Lines Section, on TLSD, Jog Falls, in 400KV SSM Division Talaguppa, Tr. (W&M) Circle, Shivamogga.

No. SEE/EE(O)/AEEE-1/2022-23/F-3156-161 **Date : 17.08.2022**

3) Tender No.: KPTCL/2021-22/EL /WORK_INDENT8902/CALL-3. Combined Package for the following works (1) Replacement of existing 220KV "DC A+0" tower at Balasagodu limits near Sagar with 220KV DC A+3 KALPATARU Design tower at Location No. 129-131 of 220KV S-3&4 DC Line for increasing vertical clearance in Transmission Lines Section Sagar in Transmission Lines Sub-division, Jog Falls. **(2)** Replacement of 1 no of 220kv Tower (220KV L&T Design) at Location No:168-169 of 220KV Sharavthi-Shimoga S-1 & 2 DC Line maintain vertical clearance between bottom conductor and ground near Hosuru limits in Anandapura Transmission Lines Section, on TLSD, Jog Falls. **(3)** Replacement of existing 220KV "DC A+0" tower at Anandapura-Shikaripura Road cross with 220KV DC A+3 KALPATARU Design tower at Location No. 187-188 of 220KV S-3&4 DC Line for increasing vertical clearance in Transmission Lines Section Anandapura in Transmission Lines Sub-division, Jog Falls. **(4)** Providing One No. 220KV DC A+3 L&T Design tower between Location No. 105-106 of 220KV S-1&2 DC Line near Sagar limits Road for increasing vertical clearance in Sagar Transmission Lines Section, on TLSD, Jog Falls. **(5)** Providing One No. of intermediate tower 220KV DC A+3 L&T Design tower between Location No. 121-122 of 220KV S-1&2 DC Line near Kamblikoppa limits Road for increasing vertical clearance in Sagar Transmission Lines Section, on TLSD, Jog Falls. **(6)** Providing One No.of 220KV DC intermediate Tower between Location No.164-165 of 220KV S-3&4 DC Line maintain vertical clearence between bottom conductor and ground near Hosuru limits in Anandapura Transmission Lines Section, on TLSD, Jog Falls.

For detailed Information and to participate in the tender through e-procurement mode please visit our website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** hyperlink "e-procurement" or directly you can access the tendering website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **11.00 AM on 20.08.2022 for Sl.No.1 and 22.08.2022 for Sl.No. 2 & 3.** Any other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele),
Tr. (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavana, MRS Colony, Harige, Shivamogga-577203

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is desirous of purchasing all that piece and parcel of immovable property more-fully described in the schedule hereunder (**"Schedule Property"**) from its present owner, **SRI. NARASE GOWDA, S/o. Narayanaiah, Aged about 71 years,**

Residing at #491, 2nd Floor, 3rd Main, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Nagendra Block, Bengaluru - 560 050. It is reported that the owner has acquired the right, title and interest over the schedule property by virtue of the registered Absolute Sale Deed dated 15-02-2021 vide registered as document No-ABL-1-06858-2020-21, Stored in CD No-ABLD867 of Book-I dated 20-02-2021 in the office of the Senior Sub Registrar, Basavanagudi(Attibele), Anekal Taluk from Karnataka Housing Board which is more-fully described in the Schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as "SCHEDULE PROPERTY".

Any person or persons asserting any charge, lien, right, title, agreement, interest or claim on the schedule property or any part thereof in any manner or having any claim against the schedule property or the documents thereof or against the owner or objection to such sale in favour of my client should lodge his/her/their/its objections or claims with supporting documents with the undersigned within **FIFTEEN DAYS (7 Days)** of the issuance of this Public Notice, after which period my client shall proceed with the purchase of the schedule property on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regards to the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the **Residential Site bearing No-1750, Category MIG-II,** layout formed by Karnataka Housing Board, under 100 Housing Projects Scheme, situated at Suryanagar, comprising of lands acquired by the Karnataka Housing Board in various Survey numbers of Iggaluru, Banahalli Villages of Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, **measuring East to West 13.50 Meters and North to South 16.50 Meters in all measuring 222.75 Square Meters** and bounded on that :- **East by : Site No-1751 MIG-II, West by : Site No-1749 MIG-II, North by : Road, South by : Site No-1741 MIG-II.**

H. B. Chandrashekar, Advocate,
HB Law Associates, No. 4/20,
1st' B Main Road, 1st' N Block,
Rajajinagar, Bengaluru - 560 010.

IN THE HON'BLE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC, AT ANEKAL
O.S. No. 645/2019

BETWEEN:
I. Nagalambike
W/o Late I Mahabaleshwarappa
Aged about 67 years,
Residing at Ittina House,
Kalkondrahalli Village, Sarjapura Road,
Bangalore-560035
Represented by her GPA holder Manu Ittina
And others ...PLAINTIFFS

AND
L.Bharath Kumar and others
...DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT No.1 UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, 1908. BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

1. L.Bharath Kumar, Aged about 30 years, S/o. K. Linga Reddy, Residing at No. 59/2, A-304, 3rd Floor, 35th Main, 7th Cross, DSR Naveen Lake Apartment, BTM Layout, Bangalore-560068.

Whereas, the Plaintiffs have filed the above suit against you *interalia* for the relief of declaration that the Agreement for Sale dated 13.07.2016 in respect of the schedule properties is voidable at the option of Plaintiffs and therefore stands terminated and cancelled; to deliver and cancel the said Agreement for Sale; for a direction that the copy of the decree be sent to the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Anekal to note on the copy of the instrument contained in his books, the fact of its cancellation and for other consequential reliefs.

The Hon'ble Court by its order dated 01.07.2022 as modified by order dated 29.07.2022 has ordered issuance of suit summons to you by substituted service. Therefore, you are hereby directed to appear and show cause as to why the suit should not be decreed, **on 23.08.2022 at 11:00 A.M.**, in person or by a Pleader/Advocate duly instructed in the matter.

Take notice that in case of default or your non-appearance, the suit will be heard and disposed of *ex-parte* i.e., in your absence.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Item No. 1
All that piece and parcel of property bearing Survey No.5/6 measuring 1 Acre 30 guntas excluding kharab land situated at Andhapura Village, AttibeleHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on:
East by : Gold coin property
West by : Manibasappa's Land
North by : Road
South by : Gold coin property

Item No. 2
All that piece and parcel of property bearing Survey No.5/5 measuring 1 acre 3 guntas excluding kharab land situated at Andhapura Village, AttibeleHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on:
East by : Halleliappa's Land
West by : Remaining portion of the same property
North by : Road
South by : Gold coin property

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court, on this the 2nd day of August 2022.

By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer,
Senior Civil Judge & JMFC Court Anekal.

Advocate for Plaintiffs:
M/s. King & Partridge, Advocates
No.48, Lavelle Road, Bangalore 560001

Government of Karnataka
(Water Resources Department)
IRRIGATION PROJECTS, CADA DIVISION, KALABUAGI
Address : Plot No.21, Kotanur Dhariapura Road, G. D. A. Layout, 3rd Main Road, "B" Block, Kalaburagi-585102), e-mail: eecadaipglb@gmail.com

No.EE/CADA/Kal-Div/PB-1/2022-23/559 Date: 18-08-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY) (TWO COVER SYSTEM)

On behalf of The Administrator, Irrigation Projects Zone, CADA, Kalaburagi, The Executive Engineer, Irrigation Projects,CADA. Division Kalaburagi has invited tenders for civil work from qualified contractors, the details of which are as follows.
1) Details of work : 1 Ayacut Road work, 2) Head of Account :2705 State Sector, 3) Amount put to tender: **Rs. 57,34,527.82 + GST,** 4) Eligibility of Contractor: KPWD Class-1 and aove 5) Time limit for access to e-procurement portal : **From 22.08.2022 To 06.09.2022 upto 5.00 PM,** 6) Cost of Tender Application and E.M.D. amount: As per e-procurement portal, 7) The last date & time for receipt of tenders: **06.09.2022 5.00 PM,** 8) Date & Time for opening of Technical bid : **08.09.2022 at 11.00 AM,** 8) Date & Time for opening of Financial bid: **22.09.2022 at 11.00 AM,** 9) For tender queries and clarification: Executive Engineer, Irrigation Projects, CADA Division, Kalaburagi, 10) Website : www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Executive Engineer,
DIP/Kalaburagi/508/MC&A/2022-23 **Irrigation Projects, CADA Division, Kalaburagi**

Government of Karnataka
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer, Mandya Division, Mandya
ID : eepwdmandya@gmail.com / eemnd@kpwd.gov.in

No. E.E. PWD.Mandya, Dn./AE-1/2/3/2022-2023/dated: 18-08-2022

POSTPONEMENT NOTIFICATION NO.2

Subject :- Construction/ Improvements to road work - Postponement No.2
Reference :- 1. This Office Tender Notification No. 02/2022-2023 dated: 30-06-2022
2. Our office postponement-1 dated: 28.07.2022.

With reference to the above Notification No. 02/2022-2023 dated: 30-06-2022 the works pertaining to Mandya District of Mandya Division were invited.

This Tender was postponed vide reference No. 2. Again due to Technical reasons [except the works of Serial Nos. are 1,2,3,6,9,20,38] the works have been postponed. The works of Sl.No. 36 & 37 have been cancelled. The works of Sl. No. 24,40,41,42 have been postponed indefinitely. The details are as follows;

Description	Dates as per NIT 2	Dates as per Postponement No. 1		Dates as per Postponement No. 2
		Sl.Nos (2), (4), (9), (13) to (21), (23), (25) to (29), (33), (37), (39), (41) & (42)	(5), (7), (8), (10) to (12), (22), (24), (30) to (32), (34) to (36) and (40)	Sl.Nos. 4,5,7,8,10 to 19, 21 to 23, 25 to 35, 39
Documents may be downloaded through e-portal	15-07-2022	08-08-2022	Postponed Indefinitely	26-08-2022
Pre-bid Meeting only (for KW-4 Works only)	27-07-2022 at 11.00 am	16-08-2022 at 11.00 am		02-09-2022 at 11.00 am
Last date of Queries	28-07-2022 at 4.00 pm	19-08-2022 at 4.00 pm		06-09-2022 at 4.00 pm
Last date of Submission of Tender	30-07-2022 at 4.30 pm	19-08-2022 at 4.30 pm		07-09-2022 at 4.30 pm
Opening of Technical Bid	01-08-2022 at 11.00 am onwards	20-08-2022 at 5.00 pm onwards		08-09-2022 at 5.00 pm onwards
Opening of Financial Bid	03-08-2022 at 11.00 am onwards	22-08-2022 at 11.00 am onwards		12-09-2022 at 11.00 am onwards

Henceforth, any changes in the schedule / contents will not be published through newspapers and further changes will be updated only in e-procurement portal.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P.W.D. Mandya Division, Mandya

Control, alter

The BJP seeks a balance between a central command and regional leadership

The BJP has reconstituted its 11-member Parliamentary Board and the 15-member Central Election Committee this week and they are likely to remain in charge well into the 2024 general election. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's grip over party matters is absolute and the reconstitution of these apex bodies hardly alters that fact. In that sense, nothing fundamentally changes, and the changes reinforce the trend of Mr. Modi's expanding footprint in the party's remaking. Senior leader Nitin Gadkari, a former party president, and Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan have lost their Parliamentary Board seats, while the new icon of the Hindutva camp, U.P. CM Yogi Adityanath, has not found a place. The former Karnataka CM, B.S. Yediyurappa, who holds sway over the Lingayat community and is crucial in electoral calculations in Karnataka has been brought back into the power structure, a year after he was asked to resign as Chief Minister. By inducting him into both bodies, the central leadership has conceded his indispensability. Also notable is the BJP's agility to redeploy resources according to changing situations – Sarbananda Sonowal, a tribal face in Assam who was replaced as Chief Minister, is now in the Parliamentary Board. He is also a Union Minister.

BJP OBC Morcha head and Rajya Sabha MP K. Laxman from Telangana and Lok Sabha MP Sudha Yadav from Haryana are expected to be the party's links to relatively new constituencies. Iqbal Singh Lalpura has become the first Sikh to be inducted into the Parliamentary Board, while Shahnawaz Hussain has been dropped from the CEC. Mr. Modi is particular about staying in complete control, but he recruits and deploys a diverse legion in his support. The BJP under him has achieved a balance between a disciplined central command and the autonomy of individual leaders who are in charge of particular tasks. While only a few of them have the capacity of Mr. Yediyurappa to bargain with the party, they do strengthen the relentless social engineering pursuits of the BJP. The party has the capacity to be flexible and can even reverse its decisions to manage its electoral prospects, as Mr. Yediyurappa's rehabilitation shows. The dislodging of Mr. Gadkari, who has maintained an image of relative autonomy as Minister and a party leader, on the other hand, can be interpreted as a stern demand for absolute loyalty. That too is a sign of the changing relationship between Mr. Modi and the RSS, the mother ship of the Sangh Parivar that includes the BJP. Mr. Gadkari is said to be a favourite of the RSS, which no longer holds the same sway over the BJP as it used to. Mr. Gadkari's exclusion also coincides with the inclusion of another Brahmin from Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavis, in the CEC. The reconstituted Parliamentary Board and CEC of the BJP signal dynamism and tight control at the same time.

Reining in overreach

Setting higher requisites for arrests or summons under the GST law is welcome

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), through four different communiqués this week, has altered the enforcement processes for tax evaders in both customs as well as Goods and Services Tax (GST) matters. First, it significantly raised the monetary thresholds for initiating prosecutions and arrests under the Customs Act. Separately, the board laid down elaborate guidelines for GST officials before they exercise their powers to arrest and issue summons under the central GST law. While such norms were laid down for legacy laws governing taxes such as central excise, that are now subsumed into the GST, CBIC felt the need to issue fresh guidelines. The summons checklist, for instance, takes note of routine issuance of summons to top officials of firms even for procuring records available on the GST portal, and specifies that CXOs and MDs of any firm must not 'generally' be summoned in the first instance, but only when their involvement in tax evasion is clearly indicated. An approval process that requires officers to record reasons for issuing summons has been mooted to ensure that the power is exercised judiciously, even as they have been advised to consider where simple letters may suffice.

The norms spelt out for arrest and bail for GST offences, that stem from a Supreme Court judgment, are far more exhaustive and aimed at preventing 'routine and mechanical' arrests. The pre-requisites laid out before an arrest include the availability of credible evidence of wrongdoing as a starting point. However, approvals to arrest would hinge on whether the intent to evade tax or wrongfully avail tax benefits is evident and *mens rea* or guilty mind is palpable. Mere disagreements on interpreting a tax levy should not result in an arrest, the Board has said, underlining that the power to arrest must be exercised carefully as it impinges on personal liberty. Although the CBIC took a year to respond to the apex court's conclusion that an arrest must not be made just because it can be made, its latest diktats will assuage discomfort among GST payers about tax terror of a new variety. While the GST Council will continue to navigate the remaining clean-up of exemptions and inverted duty structures and revamp of the messy multiple tax rates with an eye on ramping up revenues from the still-evolving tax regime, easing its compliance hassles is equally critical. Taxpayers and officials can always differ on what the fine print means, and oversights or mistakes may crop up in filings that may not necessarily be *mala fide*. Distinguishing these from genuinely evasive ploys of a few taxpayers, and following a well-reasoned process to prosecute those who err by design, will go a long way in making the GST a truly Good and Simple Tax for businesses rather than a fresh fear factor to fret over.

The injustice of exceptionalism

It is the exceptionalism in granting the release of 11 individuals that lies at the core of injustice in the Bilkis Bano case

NEETIKA VISHWANATH

Eleven men who were sentenced to life imprisonment in 2008 for the gang rape of Bilkis Bano (she was pregnant then) and the murder of her family members in 2002 were released this week from a jail in Gujarat. A Special Central Bureau of Investigation Court had sentenced the men to life imprisonment in 2008. Their release seems unjust and the subsequent celebration of their release by some is revolting. While the applicable law in this case, on the face of it, seems to give the power to the Gujarat government to release these men, serious questions about the legality of the decision have emerged. However, the injustice, in this case, goes beyond questions of legality or illegality. It runs deeper. Therefore, it is crucial to locate the source of this injustice.

Remission policy

As in most States, Gujarat's current remission policy (it adopted a new and revised remission policy for prisoners in 2014), makes those convicted of rape ineligible for premature release. However, the Supreme Court of India had earlier ruled that the remission question in this case would be governed by the remission policy of 1992 that was in force at the time of conviction which did not exclude those convicted of rape from executive remission. Is the injustice in this case to be located in the fact that the 1992 policy allowed remission to this category of offenders? Does justice demand that certain categories of offenders be ineligible for remission? Before we get to these questions, a brief explanation on remission and premature release is called for.

State governments have laid down behaviour/activities that can earn prisoners a certain amount of days as remission, that is then deducted from their sentence. For example, if a prisoner earns two years in remission and a court has sentenced them to 10 years, they can leave prison effectively after eight years. This system is enshrined in the Prisons Act, 1894, and also rules developed by different States (prison is a state subject). However, the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) is clear that life convicts have to undergo a minimum of 14 years of actual imprisonment before they can be considered for remission/premature release. Each State has its own procedure to consider each application for release. There is very little transparency on how these decisions are made.

Besides this, State governments have also developed premature release rules that include the power to give effect to the Governor's powers of remission under Article 161 of the Constitution. Those powers are not governed by the CrPC and are often used to bypass the minimum 14 years of actual imprisonment requirement in the CrPC.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

But in this case, the term of imprisonment of all 11 men was more than 15 years and therefore, the calculation of 14 years is irrelevant.

A right

While, undoubtedly, questions of punishment and reformation need to be individualised, a meaningful criminal justice policy should never adopt offence-based exclusions when considering remission or premature release with respect to individual persons. Remission is borne out of the central objective of prisons to operate as reformative and rehabilitative spaces. The Supreme Court has recognised remission as an inherent part of a prisoner's right to life. Contrary to popular conception, remission is a right and not a privilege extended to the convict by the state.

However, that broader position on remission cannot settle the questions of justice in this case. It is the extraordinary treatment bestowed on these 11 men when it is now denied to an entire class of offenders across the country that carries the stink of injustice. While the policy of 1992 provided no disqualification for their release, it is unclear why the Gujarat government found these men fit for release when it has excluded the very same category of prisoners from any consideration whatsoever under the policy of 2014. A cardinal rule of justice stands broken – one set of considerations for everyone else convicted for the same offence but, somehow, a different set of governance considerations for these 11 individuals.

Survivors and challenges

While there is much to worry about the legislature, the executive and the judiciary moving towards harsher sentences for those convicted for sexual offences, the impunity for sexual violence remains a grave concern. There is significant research demonstrating the challenges that rape survivors face in filing criminal complaints and navigating the justice system.

These difficulties are particularly pronounced and qualitatively different for survivors from caste and religious minorities against whom rape is used as a weapon of social oppression. One such aspect is the intimidation and pressure from perpetrators, the majority community, and often the police to drop criminal charges. The lack of witness protection measures results in many complainants turning hostile to protect themselves from more harm.

For the Bilkis Bano case too, not only was it an uphill struggle to initiate criminal proceedings but it was also accompanied by several death threats throughout the course of her case. She relocated constantly for her safety. In pursuing justice, survivors from caste and religious minorities have to bear the brunt of a casteist and Islamophobic society, apart from facing greater challenges in negotiating the criminal justice system than other survivors do.

Given this lived reality of survivors, the exceptionalism in granting the release of these 11 individuals in the Bilkis Bano case becomes even starker. When the executive has otherwise made the choice to exclude this category of offenders from the benefit of remission/premature release, releasing these men from the majority community who gang raped Bilkis Bano and murdered her family members during a communal riot is an act of exceptionalism. It is this exceptionalism that lies at the core of injustice in this case.

However, our rage at the grave injustice, in this case, must not be accompanied by a corresponding legitimisation of overly-punitive approaches to sexual violence. The insurmountable difficulties endured by Bilkis Bano to pursue justice and our collective fear for her safety now may make 15 years of imprisonment seem insufficient. But our dissatisfaction with a broken and discriminatory system cannot be fixed by harsher sentences and practices which is, unfortunately, the only form of justice that a punitive system can offer.

Neetika Vishwanath is with Project 39A, National Law University, Delhi. Research assistance by Lakshmi Menon

End this asymmetrical conflict over 'freebies'

The judiciary's move to study the issue could impact the economic freedom of States and the 'Idea of India'

PUHAZH GANDHI P.

The issue of 'freebies' has bounced back, when the Supreme Court of India on August 3, 2022, recommended constituting an expert committee comprising representatives of the beneficiaries, Union and State governments, the Finance Commission, NITI Aayog and the Reserve Bank of India to study the issue of 'freebies'.

The Court seems to toe the line of critics that 'freebies' stress States exchequers, drawing them in debt traps. On the other hand, those in favour of freebies argue that in a stratified society where capital in different forms (intellect, wealth, caste) gets accumulated in the hands of a select few, the poor and the marginalised become victimised. Here, 'social welfare measures' that are otherwise ridiculed as 'freebies' act as a shock absorber.

On 'Trickle down economics'

In the famous Reagan tax cuts, or Reaganomics, associated with 'Trickle down economics' there was a maximum cut given to higher income earners and corporations in the expectation that any benefit provided at the top would trickle down to the poor in the form of job creation, higher output, and infrastructure development. While 'trickle down' yielded some positive results, it also widened inequality, diminished inclusive growth, and was criticised by economists such as Nobel Laureate Joseph E. Stiglitz.

In India, neo-liberal schemes of the post-1990s such as the Special Economic Zones (SEZs), Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), and Bio Technology Parks (BTP), (where there were incentives in the form of tax holidays, subsidised power, and waiver of stamp duty), were seen as a result of 'trickle down economics', including the recent cut in corporate tax from 30% to 18%.

However, the World Inequality Report 2022 says that the top 1% of India held 22% of the total national income as of 2021, and the top 10% owned 57% of the income. In another instance, a research paper, 'Wealth Inequality, Class and Caste in India, 1961-2012', states that India's upper caste households earned nearly 47% more than the national average annual household income, thus making India one of the most economically and socially stratified countries in the world. Further, 93% of the top corporate board members and 61.8% of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) are owned by upper castes (MSME data March 31, 2022) – so, freebies in the form of incentives benefit the upper caste elites.

Differential tax burden

The Union government seems to rely more on indirect taxes than direct taxes. While direct taxes such as corporate taxes were slashed from 30% to 18%, indirect taxes have gone up manifold between 2014-21 – these include taxes on fuel and food (rice, milk, cereal) on which the poor spend a major portion of their income, imposing a financial burden on the poor, in turn leading to high inflation and resulting in inequality and lower growth.

T. SINGARAVELOU

States such as Tamil Nadu address this inequality through social welfare measures (derided as freebies). For example, the Tamil Nadu government's free bus pass for women has not only saved families fuel cost but has also encouraged more women to join the workforce, in turn leading to economically stable families and women's empowerment. Free midday meals (now extended to free breakfast) have encouraged socially backward parents to send their wards to school at least for the meals, resulting in keeping the evil of child labour under control and, more importantly, imparting education. These measures have resulted in a higher graduate enrolment ratio for T.N. (at 52%) which is double the national average at 27% and also higher than that of the United States at 41%.

A paper published in Oxford University Press' *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* (2009) has lauded the introduction of free colour television in villages as it has resulted in a decrease in domestic violence and also enabled women's empowerment (women, who are largely indoors due to customary practices/household duties, have been able to connect with the outside world through visual media). It has ensured self respect, as women and children are able to watch TV in their houses rather than visit the homes of those who are rich and own TV sets. Further, elitist corporate tax reduction (30% to 18%) has resulted in a revenue loss of ₹1.84 lakh crore to the Union government for 2019-20 and 2020-21; there is an expected loss of ₹1 lakh in 2021-22, surpassing the cost of some of the major freebies put together (free colour TV – ₹750 crore; free bus pass for women – ₹1,250 crore; mid-day meals for children – ₹1,823 crore).

A fiscal federal setup

India adopts 'cooperative federalism' where the Union and State cooperate to legislate and frame policies in their respective domain. Constitution Benches of the Supreme Court have been consistent in their cautioning courts not to embark on policy matters. In *R.K. Garg vs Union of India* (1981-4SCC 675), and *BALCO employees Union vs Union of India* (2002 2 SCC 333), the Court held that laws relating to economic policies should be viewed with greater latitude and deference, and that the wisdom of economic policies is not subject to judicial review. In *S. Subramaniam Balaji vs State of Tamilnadu* (2013 9 SCC 659) while dismissing the challenge to the much discussed free gifts schemes (colour television, mixer grinder, laptops) of the T.N. government, the Court observed that the distribution of gifts relates to implementation of directive principles of state policy.

The abolition of the Planning Commission in 2014 led to the politicised Finance Commission to become the sole institution for fiscal devolution. This only increased the dependence of States on the Union when it came to fiscal matters, Thus, the committee recommended by the Supreme Court will further accelerate the existing mistrust States have with the Union.

Region-specific steps

Moreover, in a fiscal federal set up, States or the regions are expected to have autonomy. Social welfare measures (freebies) may differ from State to State or region to region. For example, in the desert regions of Rajasthan it could be free drinking water, in Kerala, it could be fiscal incentives to encourage corporates/entrepreneurs to boost industrial growth, and in T.N., educational/marriage assistance and a free bus pass to help girl empowerment. Thus, it is for the respective legislature/executive to formulate the social welfare measures for that region. By recommending a central committee, the Supreme Court seems to have considered India to be a single administrative unit facing the same set of issues without due consideration of socio-economic diversity. This step would not only be counter productive to the economic freedom of the States but also to the 'Idea of India' as a 'Union of States' – as highlighted in Article 1 of the Constitution of India.

Therefore, unless the notion that 'incentives' provided to the elites are 'affirmative economic measures' while the same when provided to the poor are 'freebies' is corrected in the minds of policymakers, adjudicators and elites (both are economic/social welfare interventions in different forms), this asymmetrical conflict will continue to exist.

Puhazh Gandhi P. is an International Trade and Investment Attorney. He is also the State Joint Secretary, NRI Affairs, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), and Coordinator, Dravidian Professionals Forum (DPF)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

To read more letters online, scan the QR code

Remission and justice

Attempts to bypass established norms of justice as a result of pressure by vested interests is not a new development in India. But there is a limit to this. If India considers itself to be a nation to look up to, it needs to follow norms of justice. There is no doubt that the release of the 11 convicts in the Bilkis Bano case – which is a heinous crime – is a black mark. The development is bound to have a chilling effect on the minorities. The judiciary needs to send out a strong signal and uphold the values of justice.

ROHITH VARON S.S.,
Chennai

■ The Gujarat government's decision in the context of a horrible crime is really astonishing and shocking. One can easily perceive the political connection in all this. The development will not only revive trauma for the survivor but also send out a very wrong message that would embolden elements to continue perpetrating horrific crimes.

SATYANARAYAN PADHEE,
Bargarh, Odisha

■ What is distressing is the manner in which the convicts have been feted by heartless and hardcore elements (they include even women). One hopes that these shocking visuals do touch the conscience of the judiciary.

THARCIUS S. FERNANDO,
Chennai

■ The release of the convicts has shaken the confidence of the common citizen, especially victims and survivors of sexual assault crimes. It is obvious that what has happened was done against the rules put in place by the highest court. The 'reception' accorded to these criminals is an affront to all norms of decency and civilised behaviour. The judiciary must act immediately to set this wrong right lest people lose even their remaining sliver of hope in justice. Despondency among victims of crimes of hate and sexual violence will not add to India's glory, but may lead to the emboldening of such criminals.

FIROZ AHMAD,
New Delhi

■ Some of the visuals were absolutely shocking – for instance, seeing a woman greeting some of the convicts with ritual reverence. One hopes that the Indian judicial system is active and not in a state of decline.

C. SACHIDANANDA NARAYANAN,
Pollyamkottai, Tamil Nadu

■ The release of the convicts is not only numbing but also a setback for those involved in a long-drawn battle to secure justice. This was a horrific and brutal crime and the perpetrators should have been punished severely. To add insult to injury, the men were given a welcome. 'New India' cannot digest this remission.

DR. SUNIL CHOPRA,
Ludhiana, Punjab

■ It is dismaying to have those who were perpetrators of a terrible and dreadful crime to be released. Rather than sending out a clear signal of ensuring the safety of women, the opposite seems to have happened. This is only bound to encourage the perpetrators of heinous crimes.

CHALLAPALLI NEEHARIKA,
Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

■ This is a rude shock to the entire nation and a big blot on the government of the day. A celebration of the release of the convicts only shows that there is an element of goondaism. That the judiciary is mum is worrying for law-abiding citizens. God save India's women and girls.

V.P. DHANANJAYAN,
Chennai

■ When the Prime Minister encourages the doing away of orthodox and demeaning views on women in society and the need to treat them with respect, the release of 11 convicts almost the very next day makes me wonder whether there is any humanity left. The precedent this will set is dangerous.

RITIKA HANS,
Gurdaspur, Punjab

■ That such a thing has happened just after India has got a woman as its President indicates that politicians have no regard for the protection of women in the country. Such shocking political decisions make the common man lose faith in securing justice in a democracy.

B. SUNDAR RAMAN,
Coimbatore

From darkness to solar-powered light

Life has changed in Sarkhipara after a micro-grid solar plant was installed a year ago. **Rahul Karmakar** talks to villagers in the hamlet in Tripura's Khowai district to chronicle how electricity finally came, and how it has affected their prospects and their daily rhythm

Solar power illuminates Sarkhipara village in Khowai district of Tripura. (Below): A Reang tribal woman switches on a solar light at Sarkhipara. • RITU RAJ KONWAR

While others screamed with joy when the sun, condensed into eight-watt LED bulbs strung at irregular intervals from one end of Sarkhipara to the other, shone past dusk on September 10, 2021, Lebirung Reang just smiled. She recalled what Natuharia Reang had said before they got married six years ago – that he could bring the moon and the stars home for her. He had probably meant the sun, the nearest star, she thought.

There was another reason why Lebirung was less exuberant than the 85 other inhabitants of Sarkhipara, which means 'hilltop hamlet' in the local dialect. She was the only one who had had the experience of living with electricity at Ompi-Salkhapara, her native village, about 50 km west of Sarkhipara.

Natuharia, a school dropout like his wife and a jhum cultivator, fell for Lebirung after spotting her at her village's periodic market in 2016. It wasn't easy for him to change two public vehicles to meet her at Ompi-Salkhapara regularly. He did the next best thing: travel frequently to Chakmaghat 30 km away to charge his mobile battery for ₹10 until it was full, to be able to speak to Lebirung. He did not tell Lebirung that Sarkhipara went to sleep after sunset or used kerosene lamps for emergencies at night. Neither did she ask him if his village had electricity; she just presumed it did.

"Felt like the home I was born in," Lebirung says, recounting the day the control room of the 2 kWp (kilowatt peak power output) micro-grid solar power plant at Sarkhipara was switched on.

For Natuharia, September 10 wasn't just the day that power reached his home in the village; it was the day his wife stopped teasing him for bringing her from light to darkness.

A request for light

Sarkhipara, in Tripura's Khowai district, is about 90 km east of Agartala. Its residents are all Reangs, one of the 19 Scheduled Tribes in the State but the only one recognised as a PTG (primitive tribal group) although the nomenclature today is 'particularly vulnerable tribal group'. According to a 2016 survey by the Tribal Welfare (Tribal Rehabilitation Programme and Primitive Tribal Group) Department, commonly known as TW (TRP and PTG), the population of Reangs in Tripura is 1,85,308. The department was formed in 1985-86 for the rehabilitation of PTGs through the Forest Department in three tribal divisions.

Sarkhipara might probably have been off the State government's radar had Dilajoy Reang, the most educated among its residents, not written to Jeebonjoy Reang, the district-level chairman of the TW (TRP and PTG) Department, to bail his village out of darkness. His application in 2019 was transferred to the Tripura Renewable Energy Development Agency (TREDA), the State nodal agency for implementing new and renewable energy projects in Tripura.

"I came to know that the PTG Department was pursuing a solar lighting project in remote villages and hamlets where conventional power was not economically viable. The officials would probably not have taken almost two years to work on my application had COVID-19 not struck," says Dilajoy, who teaches Bengali at a private school at Gandacherra in the adjoining Dhalai district. Dilajoy studied up to Class 12 in Gandacherra, about 30 km from Sarkhipara. His father had sent him to live with relatives so that he would not end up as a 'nirakkhar' (illiterate) like him in Sarkhipara during his formative years.

Hardship-driven migration

Sarkhipara is a cluster of spaced-out hamlets comprising about 300 families. The cluster boasting of the micro-grid solar power plant has 17 families. It is perched on a ridge about 150 metres long and is the nearest to a road constructed in 2018 under the Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana. One has to ascend a steep slope for about 20 metres from the edge of the road to reach Sarkhipara.

Much of this road has peeled off, which explains why the villagers prefer to walk miles through the jungles for their needs. Chakmaghat is the nearest market for the residents of Sarkhipara. The nearest public health centre is at Teliamura, about 38 km away, while the nearest police station is Mungiakami, about 40 km away on NH8. The nearest school for Sarkhipara's children is at Nabajoypara, about 4 km away.

"There used to be many families around when I was young. Half of them relocated to Nabajoypara so that their children could reach school faster. Many moved out to Gandacherra and other areas of Dhalai district in search of greener pastures," says Kharanjoy Reang, Sarkhipara's 'Choudhury', or headman.

But the scenario is changing. Two families returned to Sarkhipara a few months after the micro-grid solar plant was installed. About half a dozen families also moved back to the other hamlets of Sarkhipara hoping to be beneficiaries of a similar solar power project soon.

"A 2 kWp solar plant can provide 7-8 hours of power for the basic needs of 15 families. Sarkhipara had exactly 15 families for us to set up the first such plant in Khowai district," says Swaraj Debbarma, the TREDA project director for Khowai and Dhalai districts.

Sarkhipara falls in Krishnapur Assembly constituency, one of the 20 seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes in Tripura. Hopes of electrification in the hamlet were raised after the Bharatiya Janata Party's Atul Debbarma upset Communist Party of India (Marxist) heavyweight Khagendra Jamatia in the 2018 State polls. Tripura's Power Department, of which TREDA is a wing, had calculated that erecting poles and stringing power cables for 14 km from Nonacherra to Sarkhipara would cost more than ₹50 lakh. Nonacherra is the nearest electrified, albeit partly, village from Sarkhipara. The investment for a few scattered settlements which were unlikely to afford the monthly energy bill was deemed unviable. The vote went to a solar plant worth ₹8.5 lakh, inclusive of the photovoltaic panels and storage batteries. "Apart from 15 streetlights and a television set placed at the control room for community viewing, the solar plant generates sufficient power to let each family use three lights, a fan and a socket primarily to charge mobile phones," Debbarma says.

A stand fan has made a world of difference for Kantirong Reang. She can now choose when to work on the loin loom to weave the 'rignwai', a traditional wraparound, and the 'risa', a piece that covers the upper part of the body. "Working is cooler now, but more importantly, the fan keeps mosquitoes and other insects away," she says.

When the intensity of the lights increases, insects sting less, says Abhijit Acharya, a service engineer employed by the Kolkata-based Agni Green Power Limited, the vendor that executes the solar micro-grid project for TREDA. His job is to periodically check how the solar plant performs and troubleshoot any problem.

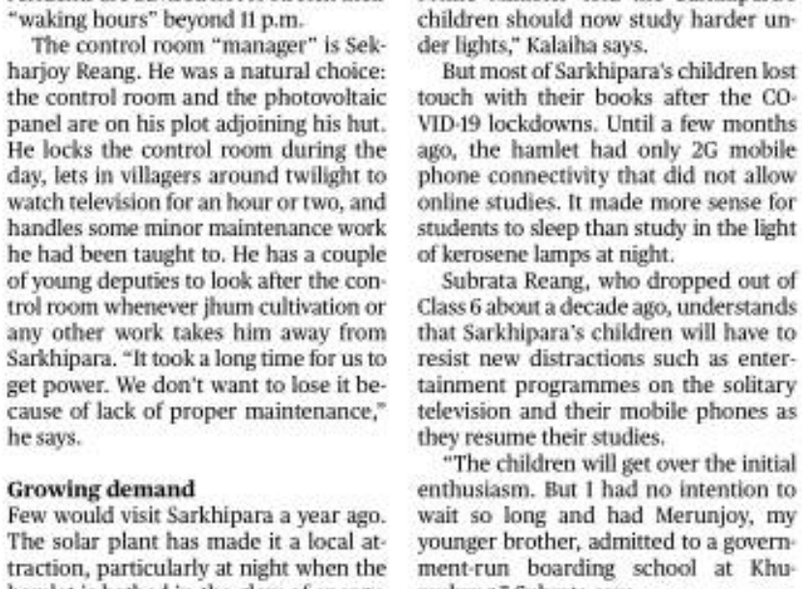
The only issue that cropped up in almost a year was when two new families – of Tamanjoy Reang and Jabanti Reang – moved in. "Their new huts were not in the initial scheme of things, but the villagers agreed to let them use a solitary bulb. The plant is now servicing 17 families instead of 15," Acharya says.

The extra load made the villagers regulate the use of the solar power switched on from the control room at 5 p.m. every day. All the streetlights save three - one each at the extreme ends of the longish Sarkhipara and one in the middle - are switched off at 10 p.m. and residents are advised not to stretch their "waking hours" beyond 11 p.m.

The control room "manager" is Sekharjoy Reang. He was a natural choice: the control room and the photovoltaic panel are on his plot adjoining his hut. He locks the control room during the day, lets in villagers around twilight to watch television for an hour or two, and handles some minor maintenance work he had been taught to. He has a couple of young deputies to look after the control room whenever jhum cultivation or any other work takes him away from Sarkhipara. "It took a long time for us to get power. We don't want to lose it because of lack of proper maintenance," he says.

Growing demand

Few would visit Sarkhipara a year ago. The solar plant has made it a local attraction, particularly at night when the hamlet is bathed in the glow of energy-saver bulbs. "No sooner did we install the micro-grid plant at Sarkhipara than people from other villages demanded solar plants, but many did not have the requisite number of families. We surveyed the area and established micro-grid solar plants at 11 other villages or hamlets," says Debabrata Sukla Das, TREDA's joint director who oversees the project. The other villages include Nabajoypara, Karnarampara, Poltonjoy, Battapara, Annarampara, Ranghajari Christianpara and Jenaraipara. "We are in the process of establishing micro-grid solar plants in 50 more remote villages that don't have electricity. Some 500 other geographically disadvantaged villages across Tripura are also on our radar for solar power connectivity," he says.



Although Tripura's Deputy Chief Minister Jishnu Dev Varma and Tribal Welfare Minister Mevar Kumar Jamatia unveiled the Sarkhipara project in September 2021, it was inaugurated a second time virtually by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 30 this year. The local authorities nominated the hamlet's Kalaiha Reang, a jhum cultivator, to speak with the Prime Minister. "The Prime Minister told me Sarkhipara's children should now study harder under lights," Kalaiha says.

But most of Sarkhipara's children lost touch with their books after the COVID-19 lockdowns. Until a few months ago, the hamlet had only 2G mobile phone connectivity that did not allow online studies. It made more sense for students to sleep than study in the light of kerosene lamps at night.

Subrata Reang, who dropped out of Class 6 about a decade ago, understands that Sarkhipara's children will have to resist new distractions such as entertainment programmes on the solitary television and their mobile phones as they resume their studies.

"The children will get over the initial enthusiasm. But I had no intention to wait so long and had Merunjoy, my younger brother, admitted to a government-run boarding school at Khumulwng," Subrata says.

Khumulwng is the headquarters of the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) near Agartala. Many of TREDA's solar projects are in areas under the TTAADC. This is because the remote, unconnected villages and hamlets are within the map of the tribal council.

"The microgrids are one of three solar-powered projects we have been undertaking for more than a year now. The other two are the Grameen Bazaar Alok Jyoti Scheme and the pioneering solar irrigation project dovetailed with the PM-KUSUM scheme," Mahananda Debbarma, TREDA's director-general and chief executive officer, says. PM-KUSUM, or the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan, focuses on the energy security of farmers. The Grameen Bazaar Alok Jyoti scheme entails providing solar-powered lights at 'haats' or periodic rural markets, and is partially funded by the Central government. TREDA has installed 2,390 solar street lights in 239 rural markets across 12 aspirational blocks. A total of 1,291 rural and interior markets are targeted to be covered under the project by December 2022.

"The rural economy has been suffering because the rural markets that operate once or twice a week could not do business beyond the daylight hours. Unsold perishables would invariably be wasted because of a lack of storage facility and proper connectivity to bigger markets. The business has improved in the sunlit rural markets," Das says.

Irrigation boost

The biggest game-changer in the rural areas has perhaps been the solar irrigation project that is expected to reduce the dependence of farmers in Tripura on monsoon rains. Neighbours Bokul Debbarma and Paul Debbarma of Baramaidan hamlet vouch for it.

Baramaidan is a part of the Ramdayalbari Autonomous District Council village under the Padmabil Rural Development Block in Khowai district. Two decades ago, the villages under this block used to be controlled by extremist groups seeking secession from India.

The scheme had no takers when it was announced post-lockdown in 2020. Dhananjoy Debbarma of Gungaraicherra Multipurpose Cooperative Society, which has been facilitating the solar irrigation projects for the local farmers, remembers going about Ramdayalbari and other villages with a traditional drum to draw the people's attention.

"The Tripura government took up the installation of 3,000 standalone solar pumps for a total project cost of ₹80.24 crore. According to the Central guidelines, 50% of the cost was to be borne by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, 30% by the State government and 20% by the beneficiary. But considering the economic conditions of the rural and tribal farmers, the Tripura government is providing 48% of the cost of the solar pump and 100% of the boring cost for a submersible pump with funding from NABARD," Das says.

Paul and Bokul were among the first to give it a try on their combined 8 kanis (10.5 acres) of farmland a few months ago. "By paying only ₹5,000 for a project worth ₹2.75 lakh, I had nothing much to lose," Paul says.

The two-horsepower solar pump he invested in has been providing him 70,000 litres per horsepower a day to irrigate his field. All it takes is a movable solar panel of 1,800 watts and a controller to activate a submersible pump 210-230 ft underground for the water to start flowing into his paddy field. Today, Paul is a multi-cropper, which was unthinkable a few years ago.

In less than a year, TREDA has installed 35 solar pumps for farmers in the Ramdayalbari region. Thirty of these are submersible and five are surface pumps, set up in farmlands close to a mountain stream. A surface pump comes cheaper as it does not involve the cost of boring.

Baramaidan has seven solar pumps - three submersible and two surface - on about 45 acres of farmland straddling a small valley. Paul and Bokul are two of the seven farmers who share this stretch. Like their neighbours, they recovered their investment in the solar pump within a month of installation.

"What scores for this solar pump is that the solar panel has a 25-year warranty and our contract with TREDA says we have to handle the maintenance of the installations for five years," says Vinod S., service engineer of the Chennai-based Ishaan Solar Power Private Limited, the vendor for the solar pump project. Other than setting up new solar pumps, the firm has been solarising old pumps in Tripura.

"We have already installed 961 solar pumps of 2HP capacity each for as many beneficiaries. More people are showing interest in this project, particularly in the remote, hilly areas. Off-grid solar set-ups are changing lives in parts of Tripura," Dev Varma says.

The success of the microgrid solar plants and the solar water pumps made TREDA think of extending a hybrid project that marries the two schemes to Sarkhipara and other remote hamlets where gastrointestinal diseases claim more lives than malaria does. This is primarily because residents in these areas depend on streams, often murky during the monsoon months, for drinking water. TREDA has already installed nine cost-effective solar-powered water treatment plants in areas facing a crisis of portable water.

The daily routine of Sarkhipara's women includes trekking 120 metres to the nearest stream for the water they need. "We do get water from a 5,000-litre tanker of the Drinking Water and Sanitation Department that stops by from time to time. But our share of water is barely 500 litres," Khumunjoy Reang, a Sarkhipara elder, says.

"We are working on a solar-powered water purification project that can be used alongside the microgrid plant for providing clean, drinking water to the locals. This can be done after analysing the availability of water, from a stream nearby or underground," Das says.

Of late, the Sarkhipara residents have been asking officials to increase the 'aagun' for using electrical appliances such as a refrigerator. The 'aagun', meaning fire in Bengali, refers to the wattage or surge of power.

The water beneath or from the surface may soon fan the solar fire for Sarkhipara.

FROM PAGE ONE

Searches by CBI at Delhi Deputy CM's premises

The Excise Department had decided to refund the earnest money deposit of about ₹30 crore to a successful tenderer against the set rules. Although there was no enabling provision, it allowed waiver on tendered licence fee due to the COVID-19 pandemic from December 28, 2021, to January 27, 2022, allegedly causing a loss of ₹144.36 crore to the exchequer, the FIR said.

The FIR names then Excise Commissioner Arva Gopi Krishna, Deputy Commissioner Anand Tiwari, and Assistant Commissioner Pankaj Bhatnagar, besides 10 liquor licence holders and their associates. The other accused include Vijay Nair, former chief executive officer of Only Much Louder (Mumbai); Manoj Rai, former employee of Pernod Ricard; Amandeep Dhal, director of Brindco Sales (Delhi); Sameer Mahendru, managing director of Indospirit Group; Buddy Retail (Delhi) and its director, Amit Arora; Dinesh Arora; Mahadev Liquors, its authorised signatory Sunny Marwah; Arun Ramchandra Pillai and Arjun Pandey.

The agency alleged that Mr. Sisodia's close associates – Buddy Retail director, Mr. Dinesh Arora, and Mr. Pandey – were actively involved in managing and diverting the undue pecuniary benefits collected from the licence holders, to public servants.

Listing the allegations, the FIR mentioned that Mr. Mahendru had transferred about ₹1 crore to the account of one Radha Industries, which was managed by Mr. Dinesh Arora; Mr. Pillai collected money from Mr. Mahendru for further transfer to an accused public servant through Mr. Nair; and that Mr. Pandey had once collected about ₹2-4 crore from Mr. Mahendru on behalf of Mr. Nair.

The authorised signatory of Mahadev Liquors, which was granted a licence, was also a director in the companies/firms being managed by the family of late Uttar Pradesh-based liquor baron Ponty Chadha. He was in close contact with the accused public servants and regularly gave bribes to them, as alleged. Last month, Delhi Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena had recommended a CBI probe into the Excise Policy 2021-22, following which the case was referred to the agency. He had later suspended 11 officials, including the then Excise Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner.

(With agency inputs)

China calls for India to work 'in same direction'

"It is hoped that the Indian side can work with China in the same direction to follow through on the common understanding between our two leaders on being each other's cooperative partners, not causing threats to each other, and presenting each other with development opportunities, so that China-India relations can come back to the right track of sound and steady development at an early date and uphold the common interest of China, India and the developing world," Mr. Wang said.

Mr. Jaishankar pointed out the reason for the current difficulties was "what China did at the border". Asked about China's willingness to resume talks to complete the disengagement process in the border after more than two years of a stand-off, Mr. Wang said, "I would like to stress that China and India maintain smooth communication over the border issues. The dialogue is effective." That is, however, not the view in Delhi, which has seen Beijing drag its feet in recent rounds of talks.

Talks to restore the status quo of April 2020, prior to China's multiple transgressions across the Line of Actual Control (LAC), have led to disengagement in some friction areas but have recently been deadlocked over disengagement in the remaining spots in Hot Springs, Demchok and Depsang. Both also struck different notes on the India-Australia-Japan-U.S. Quad grouping, with Mr. Jaishankar saying that "reservations" about the Quad "stem from a desire to exercise a veto on the choices of others".

Describing China's views on the Quad as "consistent and clear", Mr. Wang said "it will be no support if one seeks to create small cliques" in a "world of peace, cooperation and openness" because it was "against the trend of the times."

Row erupts over Lalu's son-in-law's presence

Mr. Shailesh, husband of Lalu's elder daughter and party Rajya Sabha MP Misa Bharti, is seen in the picture attending a meeting of the Bihar State Pollution Control Board in Patna on August 18 along with Minister Tej Pratap Yadav and other officials. Mr. Shailesh is said to be close to Lalu's elder son and Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Tej Pratap. In the previous Mahagathbandhan government (2015-2017) too, he was often seen with Tej Pratap, who was then holding the health portfolio.

Similarly, a picture of Mr. Sanjay, political aide of Deputy CM Tejashwi attending an official meeting too surfaced on Friday. Mr. Sanjay is seen sitting along with Mr. Tejashwi and other senior department officials allegedly in an official meeting of State Health Department.

Mr. Tejashwi is also Health Minister of the State. Sanjay Yadav has been a long-time political advisor of Mr. Tejashwi and known as his 'Man Friday'. Both CM Nitish Kumar and Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav had taken oath of office on August 10 after formation of new Mahagathbandhan government in the State while, other 31 ministers were sworn-in on August 16 with their portfolios allocated the same day. Meanwhile, senior State BJP leader and Rajya Sabha member Sushil Kumar Modi slammed the Mahagathbandhan government while tweeting pictures of both Mr. Shailesh and Mr. Sanjay attending official meetings along with Ministers and department officials. "Has Chief Minister Nitish Kumar allowed sons-in-law, brothers-in-law and political advisors of Ministers to attend official meetings?. Mr. Tej Pratap remains in news for all wrong reasons and now as a Minister he seems to have outsourced his duties to his brother-in-law," Mr. Modi alleged while adding that "this is RJD government and things like this will continue to happen and CM Nitish Kumar will have no option but to just look at it".

"Mr. Shailesh was not only attending the meeting but even conducting it, but no official will dare to say anything on this," alleged Mr. Modi.

BJP leader and party's OBC Morcha national general secretary Nikhil Anand too tweeted, "Shailesh Kumar is not only brother-in-law of Tej Pratap Yadav but he is the most talented, knowledgeable and understanding person than all the ministers of the RJD quota and if he continues to bless Tej Pratap, he (Tej Pratap) will surely prove to be the best minister of Nitish cabinet", taking a dig at Mr. Tej Pratap and the new Mahagathbandhan government.

'Centre trying to derail Delhi's health, education revolution'

Kejriwal backs Sisodia, says world had praised him as best Education Minister

JATIN ANAND
NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday accused the Central government of going after Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia through the CBI to "derail Delhi's education and health revolution" even as the investigation agency raided his deputy's residence.

Arvind Kejriwal

Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena had recommended a CBI investigation into "deliberate and gross procedural lapses" in the revamped Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22 on July 22 following which the AAP government had decided to scrap it.

As already reported by *The Hindu*, Mr. Sisodia's role was under the lens in regard to the proposed CBI probe for allegedly providing "undue financial favours" to individuals and firms provided liquor retail licences under the new policy.

On the other hand, a Directorate of Vigilance (DoV) report on the matter, which has been accessed by *The Hindu*, indicted Mr. Sisodia for alleged departure from procedure by creating multiple files to reduce the number of dry days in Delhi from 21 to 3 of which seven Excise department officials, including then Excise Commissioner Arava Gopi Krishna, an IAS officer, were also allegedly a part.

Citing a report in *The New York Times* and without naming the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Mr. Kejriwal accused the Centre of "sending the CBI" to the Excise Minister's doorstep as part of a "witch-hunt" at a time when the world was praising him "as the best Education Minister."

"America's biggest newspaper *The New York Times* published our Deputy CM Manish Sisodia's photo on its front page, appreciated Delhi's Education Model; I congratulate the whole country, it is a matter of pride; but it is shameful that the Centre sent the CBI behind Manish Sisodia hours after the news was published," the Chief Minister said.

Whoever had tried to "do some good" politically in the 75 years since Independence, the Chief Minister added, was stopped by "these people", that is the country's politicians, who "let India lag behind."

BJP alleges scam

Meanwhile, the BJP pulled out all stops to go after the AAP government, accusing it of using the excise policy to convert black money into white and taking refuge behind the issues of education and health to "hide" the alleged excise scam.

North-east Delhi BJP MP Manoj Tiwari charged the AAP with having contested elections in Punjab, Uttarakhand and other States with the money that it "received as commission" from a scam in the new excise policy.

West Delhi BJP MP Parvesh Verma sought to drag the Chief Minister himself into the fray, accusing him of being the architect behind it.

Scholars call for freeing Setalvad and Sreekumar

Noam Chomsky among signatories

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Eleven international scholars have urged India's Supreme Court to take *suo motu* notice of the fallout of the Zakia Jafri judgement, expunge the "derogatory" remarks contained in it, and dismiss the cases against co-petitioner Teesta Setalvad and witness R.B. Sreekumar, who have been arrested "on the strength of these remarks".

In June, Ms. Setalvad and Mr. Sreekumar were arrested by the Ahmedabad Crime Branch after a First Information Report (FIR) was registered against them for allegedly fabricating documents to frame innocent people in the 2002 Gujarat riots related cases.

In a statement released by the non-government organisation SAHMAT, the scholars said: "We, the undersigned members of the academic community, are deeply disturbed by some of the recent judgments of the Indian Supreme Court, which have a direct bearing on the future of civil liberties and human rights in India."

List of signatories

According to the statement, its signatories are Bhiku Parekh, House of Lords (London); Noam Chomsky, Prof. Emeritus, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Prof., University of Arizona (U.S.); Prof. Arjun Appadurai of Max Planck Institute (Germany); Prof. Wendy Brown of Institute of Advanced Studies, Princeton (U.S.); Prof. Emeritus Sheldon Pollock and Profs. Carol Rovane and Akeel Bilgrami of Columbia University (U.S.); Prof. Emeritus Charles Taylor of McGill University (Canada); Prof. Martha Nussbaum of University of Chicago (U.S.); and Profs. Robert Pollin and Gerald Epstein of University of Massachusetts (U.S.).

Past verdicts will hold SC in good stead in Bilkis case

It was as recently as in April that the court had said that the State cannot exercise its remission powers arbitrarily

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has enough ammunition in the form of past judgments to examine the Gujarat Government's premature release of 11 convicts who were sentenced to life imprisonment for the 2002 Bilkis Bano gangrape case.

For one, on April 23, 2019, the court, while awarding her ₹50 lakh in compensation, described how the "brutal, diabolic, gruesome, horrific acts of violence" committed on her has left an "indelible imprint on her mind which will continue to torment and cripple her".

The apex court had noted that the then 21-year-old and pregnant Ms. Bilkis was "repeatedly gang-raped". She was a "mute and helpless witness to her three-and-a-half-year-old daughter butchered to death". She had lost all the members of her family while fleeing the mayhem and violence of the 2002 riots. The court said she had lived the life of a nomad, an orphan.

Voicing dissent: An activist protesting against the release of the Bilkis Bano case convicts in New Delhi on Thursday. • AFP

The State government's decision to remit the sentence of the 11 convicts has raised a furious public outcry. Civil rights groups have urged the Supreme Court to revoke the remission. Ms. Bilkis's family has told the media that they are scared of what may happen to them in the future.

It was as recently as in April 2022 that an apex court Bench led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud had said that the State cannot exercise its remission powers arbitrarily.

The court, in State of Haryana *Vs.* Mohinder Singh, has underscored that the grant of remission should be "informed, fair and reasonable".

In Rajan *Vs.* Home Secretary, Department of Tamil Nadu, the top court has held that "grant of premature release is not a matter of privilege but is the power coupled with duty conferred on the appropriate government". The court has said that "remission should not undermine the nature of crime committed".

NEWS ANALYSIS

The court has, in Laxman Naskar *Vs.* Union of India, laid down five questions which should feature in the State's mind before deciding on remission. They are – whether the offence is an individual act of crime that does not affect society; whether there is a chance of the crime being repeated in future; whether the convict has lost the potentiality to commit crime; whether any purpose is served in keeping the convict in prison; and socio-economic conditions of the convict's family.

The fact that the crimes were committed on Ms. Bilkis in the background of violence which affected the entire State; the apprehensions voiced by her family following the release of the convicts, and the warm welcome reported to have been accorded to the 11 men when they came out of jail, make the Laxman Naskar judgment relevant in this case.

Presiding officer's take

The Supreme Court, if it takes up the issue of remission in the Bilkis case, should also examine whether the State had been guided by the opinion of the presiding officer of the sentencing court on the remission applications.

In Union of India *Vs.* Sriharan @ Murugan, the apex court said the presiding judge's opinion would shed light on factors like the nature of the crime that was committed, the record of the convicts, their backgrounds and other relevant factors, which would enable the government to take the "right" decision as to whether or not the sentence should be remitted.

After all, as the Supreme Court observed in Nandini Sundar *Vs.* Chhattisgarh, it is the "responsibility of the States to prevent untoward incidents and to prevent crime".

In its 2018 decision in the Tehseen Poonawalla case on mob violence and lynching, the court considered the "targeted violence and commission of offences affecting the human body and against private and public property by mobs under the garb of self-assumed and self-appointed protectors of law".

Here, the court noted that "horrendous acts of mobocracy" should not become the "new normal". The apex court had warned the State against turning "a deaf ear to the growing rumblings of its people".

Umar Farooq not under house arrest: J&K L-G

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Manoj Sinha on Friday said Hurriyat chairman and Valley's chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq was neither under house arrest nor detained. However, the Hurriyat has contested the L-G's claim. "There was no Public Safety Act [PSA] against him even in 2019. He is not detained. In the past, his father was assassinated unfortunately. We keep security around his house to protect him. He is neither under house arrest nor detention," Mr. Sinha told the *BBC* in an interview in Srinagar.

'Unbelievable claim'

A Hurriyat spokesman said, "The Hurriyat was amazed by the statement. The Mirwaiz is under house detention for the past three years since August 2019. Such blatant misrepresentation of facts and denial of his incarceration are unbelievable." The Hurriyat said he was even stopped from going to the Jamia Masjid on Fridays to deliver sermons, a centuries-old tradition.

"The Mirwaiz and his forefathers defended the basic interest of people of Jammu and Kashmir in their engagements with both India and Pakistan, and in the course, suffered exile and incarcerations," the Hurriyat said.

The spokesman said that if the authorities had now decided to release the Mirwaiz, he should be "allowed to deliver the Friday sermon at Jamia Masjid this week".

Former Chief Minister and National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah also took a jibe at the L-G's statement on the Mirwaiz.

Modi govt. is the biggest freebie giver for political leverage: Mitra

'Even Central schemes fall under PM's definition of freebie'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Wading into the freebie debate, former West Bengal Finance Minister Amit Mitra said what Prime Minister Narendra Modi government was calling "freebies" were fundamental for the inclusive economic growth of the country. He also added that the Modi government was the biggest giver of freebies for political leverage.

Amit Mitra

Speaking to a select group of mediapersons, Mr. Mitra, who is now the Chief Economic Adviser to the West Bengal government, said: "It looks like the Prime Minister and his government are looking at themselves in a mirror in terms of freebies. This government has been the biggest giver of freebies for political leverage."

He pointed out that through eight Central schemes, the Centre pays out ₹1.25 lakh crores, which he said could be listed under the Prime Minister's definition of "freebies". "On January 1, 2022, the PM suddenly announced ₹6,000 each to 10 crore farmers as a fresh instalment of direct transfer under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi programme. A perfect case of a freebie," he said.

'Misplaced debate'

At the same time, Mr. Mitra argued that this debate on "freebie" was absolutely misplaced and the economic measures that the PM was referring to as *revri* or freebie were used by most developed nations for inclusive economic growth. He cited the example of the Economic Security Act of the U.S., under which families of four got $3400 a month as cash. This turned around the U.S. economy, he said.

Congress may miss timeline to start process to elect new chief

CWC is yet to clear final schedule sent by election authority

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Congress is all set to miss its earlier announced timeline of starting the process of electing a new All India Congress Committee (AICC) President on August 20.

The Congress Working Committee (CWC) last October approved a one-month window – between August 20 and September 20 – to complete the process.

But the CWC is yet to approve the final schedule even though the Central Election Authority (CEA) is said to have sent it for approval by the party's highest decision-making body.

Two members of the CEA confirmed to *The Hindu* that they are ready with the schedule and need about 20-25 days to complete the process of elections once the CWC approves the schedule.

While there is no word on why the party is yet to announce the final schedule, leaders cite various reasons privately: from delay in completing the elections in State units to the top leadership getting caught in Enforcement Directorate (ED) summons.

Man arraigned in weapon dropping case dies in jail

Another accused had died a day earlier

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

A suspect in the weapon dropping case, who is allegedly accused of collecting and ferrying weapons dropped via drones along the International border in Jammu region, died due to heart attack in the Kotbhalwal jail on Friday.

The undertrial, Muni Muhammad, 36, was offering *namaz* (prayers), along with other prisoners, when he suddenly collapsed. He was shifted to a hospital where he was declared brought dead, officials said. The death of Muhammad happened a day after another accused from Pakistan, who was also allegedly involved in the same case, had died in the jail.

Muhammad, a resident of Rampura village, was accused of being involved in the May 29 explosive dropping case in Kathua.

IN BRIEF

Seven crore families got water connection: Modi

PANAJI
Prime Minister Narendra Modi said his government's piped water connection to seven crore families in the last three years under the Jal Jeevan Mission helped the country achieve the target of 10 crore such connections in villages so far. PTI

Arun Ferreira moves High Court for default bail

MUMBAI
Arun Ferreira, one of the accused in the Elgar Parishad case, has approached the Bombay High Court seeking a default bail on parity with co-accused Sudha Bharadwaj. The petition will come up before a new Bench after one of the justices recused from hearing the plea.

FIR filed in case on yacht carrying three AK-47s

MUMBAI
The Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) has registered a case against unidentified persons in connection with the yacht that was found off the Raigad coast near Mumbai with AK-47 rifles and live rounds on board, an official said. PTI

EAM to open embassy premises in Paraguay

NEW DELHI
External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will officially inaugurate the premises of the Indian Embassy in the Paraguayan capital Asuncion next week. The External Affairs Ministry said the ceremony would happen during his tour covering Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay.

Indian team deliberating on ocean diversity pact

A key aspect of the agreement is deciding on the rights of companies that undertake exploration for marine resources

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

A delegation from India and other member countries of the United Nations are in New York to deliberate on a one-of-its-kind agreement to conserve marine biodiversity in the high seas, namely the oceans that extend beyond countries' territorial waters.

The agreement follows a resolution by the UN General Assembly in May and is expected to be the final in a series set in motion since 2018 to draft an international legally binding instrument under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

The high seas comprise nearly 45% of the Earth's surface.

The Indian delegation comprises officials from the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Centre for Marine Fisheries and Research Institute and the Ministry of External Affairs.

A key aspect of the agreement is deciding on the rights of companies that undertake exploration for biological resources in the high seas. Do companies have absolute rights on any discovery or extraction in these regions or should they share their gains, in terms of intellectual property and royalties with a UN-prescribed body, said M. Ravichandran, Secretary, MoES.

Blue expanse: Oceanic research vessels undertake exploration to survey and study marine resources. • FILE PHOTO

Typically, the focus of mining activity in the sea has been for gas hydrates, precious metals and other fossil fuel resources. However, with advances in biotechnology and genetic engineering, several companies see potential in exotic microbes and other organisms – several of them undiscovered – that abide in the deep ocean and could be used for drugs and vaccines.

Last June, the Union Cabinet approved a 'Blue Economy' policy for India, a nearly ₹4,000-crore programme spread over five years. This among other things will develop a manned submersible vessel as well as work on "bio-prospecting of deep-sea flora and fauna including microbes".

Studies on sustainable utilisation of deep sea bio-resources will be the main focus.

Mr. Ravichandran said that there were already companies carrying out such exploratory activities though little was known about them. "Hence, an international agreement that spells out obligations and permissible activities is important," he told *The Hindu*.

K.M. Gopakumar, legal advisor and an expert on intellectual property matter with the Third World Network, said that there was a "race" among international corporations for biological resources from the sea, making it critical to have an agreement on benefit-sharing. "These resources are the common heritage of mankind and we can't allow it to be monopolised by a few entities," he told *The Hindu*.

Amethi unit all set to make AK-203 rifles

Russia to send equipment shortly

DINAKAR PERI
MOSCOW

AK-203 assault rifle.

The production of the AK-203 assault rifles by the Indo-Russian joint venture at Amethi, Uttar Pradesh, is set to begin by year-end and the manufacturing equipment required for it will be dispatched from Russia shortly, according to a senior official of Kalashnikov, the Russian company which manufactures the rifles.

The production was originally scheduled to begin early this year.

"Training of Indian workers of the factory will begin shortly and the manufacturing process will reach 100% indigenisation in three years," the official who did not wish to be identified said.

He stated that earlier issues with regard to the ammunition for the rifles have been resolved.

Confirming this, Dmitry Shugaev, Director of the Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation (FSMTC) of Russia, said, "Work is under way to organise the production of the AK-203 assault rifles in India, the serial production of which is expected to begin in late 2022 or early 2023."

Delayed due to war

As reported by *The Hindu* earlier, as part of pre-production activities, retrials were scheduled to be done with ammunition from the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) in Russia in the first half of February, but got delayed by few months due to the war in Ukraine. On this, officials said this issue had now been resolved and a local manufacturer of ammunition had been identified in India.

As per the contract, over 6.1 lakh AK-203 assault rifles costing over ₹5,000 crore will be manufactured by a Joint Venture, Indo-Russian Rifles Private Ltd (IRRPL), at Korwa, Amethi in Uttar Pradesh. IRRPL was set up jointly between erstwhile OFB [now Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited (AWEIL) and Munitions India Limited (MIL)] of India and Rosoboronexport (RoE) and concern Kalashnikov of Russia.

A modern production line has been established and a small arms range has been set up where acceptance tests of rifles will be carried out. The full-scale production is expected to be reached within 2-3 years, Director-General of Rosobor on export Alexander Mikheev had stated earlier.

As per contractual terms, first 70,000 AK-203 rifles will be produced in India with a phased increase in the extent of localisation from 5% to 70%. The remaining rifles will be produced with 100% localisation.

INTERVIEW | D.K. SHIVAKUMAR

'Cong. must approach Karnataka polls with collective leadership'

Siddaramaiah could not deliver, says party's State unit chief

SANDEEP PHUKAN

Amid a power tussle within the Congress over projecting a chief ministerial face, Karnataka Congress chief **D.K. Shivakumar** says that projecting Mr. Siddaramaiah last time didn't help the party. Edited excerpts:

If Congress is in power, it can take along every section of the society

Was the Freedom March on August 15 to counter the aggressive nationalism of the BJP, an issue over which it often tries to corner the Congress?

■ The BJP never believed in nationalism as they don't believe in the unity of this country. They always believe in division. From the day the Congress won freedom for the country, we are trying to take the country forward and see that all sections of people of the country are safe.

If Congress is in power, it can take along every section of the society. India's culture is to be united.

I gave a call to the people of Karnataka that this will be a non-political event. Though the Congress party heads it, you all are to participate with your family.

In Karnataka, the BJP has blamed the Congress for planting 'rumours' about changing the Chief Minister and thereby create a sense of instability.

■ It is quite obvious that they have to blame some opposition party for their own wounds. It is not me but the ministers of the sitting government, MLAs, former Union Minister are telling about the leadership change, corruption, and what all is there. They have been internally speaking as well in public. So being an opposition party, it is our duty to tell the truth.

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi talked about a united Congress but we often see leaders differing over the issue of chief ministerial face. Mr. Siddaramaiah's supporters want him to be declared as the chief ministerial candidate while your supporters want you to be the face.

■ I don't have any followers for myself. I don't believe in any followers. One man with courage makes a majority. I am the leader. The entire Congress party cadres are our party. I don't believe in groupism or in any parallel system. My duty is to deliver Karnataka to Shrimati Sonia Gandhi [Congress president].

Don't you think that not having a chief ministerial face can be a disadvantage?.

■ We had Mr. Siddaramaiah as Chief Minister for five years. Mr. [Rahul] Gandhi gave him the maximum strength and support. He was declared as the Chief Ministerial candidate [in 2018]. He could not deliver, we lost. The party decided that we will all go with collective leadership and we will all work in a collective leadership. I am sure that we will come back to power.

So, you don't need a chief ministerial face for next year's Assembly elections?

■ It is not needed, and it will not help us.

How do you look at the BJP bringing back former Chief Minister and Lingayat leader B.S. Yediyuruppa into the Parliamentary Board, the party's top decision making body?

■ I am very closely watching the BJP activities. After Narendra Modi took over as the Prime Minister and we have a lot of respect for the position he is holding, I don't know of a single incident where the parliamentary body has met and executed what they have decided. For namesake, there may be a Parliamentary Board.

To read full interview, go to bit.ly/shivakumarqanda

J&K parties hold protest against new voter list

They asked EC to give a clarification

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Warning the Central government of "dangerous ramifications" for including non-local voters in the electoral rolls of Jammu and Kashmir, political parties in the Union Territory staged protests on Friday and asked the Election Commission of India (ECI) to clarify the inclusion of "outsiders" in the newly released voters list for the upcoming Assembly polls.

Political parties in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday held street protests and warned of "dangerous ramifications".

Peoples Conference chairman Sajad Gani Lone said a new set of apprehensions have crept in among the people of J&K after the recent ECI announcement.

Sajad Gani Lone

"The Government of India must come out with unvarnished truth to allay their fears. The statement of ECI officials has heightened the fear of demographic intervention. We know the set of laws that prevail across the country but what matters here is not the application of the law but the intentions of those implementing the law," Mr. Lone said.

He said unless the government comes forward with an explanation of their intentions, "we see this as an advertent escalation".

BSF jawan killed in Tripura

A CORRESPONDENT
AGARTALA

Militants ambushed a BSF patrol and critically wounded a trooper near Bangladesh border in Kanchanpur of north Tripura on Friday.

Havildar Girish Kumar Yadav (53) succumbed to bullet injuries after he was evacuated by a helicopter and admitted to a private hospital here.

The BSF blamed the NLFT (BM) group for the attack at Khantlang, a triangle bordering both Mizoram and Bangladesh. It said that the militants fled to the dense forests after the jawans retaliated.

APPOINTMENT

भारतीय राष्ट्रीय महासागर सूचना सेवा केन्द्र INCOIS
(पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्तशासी संगठन)
Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)
(An autonomous body under Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Govt. of India)
हैदराबाद / Hyderabad- 500090

भारत सरकार द्वारा वर्ष **2021-26** की अवधि के दौरान अनुमोदित की जाने वाली प्रस्तावित परियोजनाओं के लिए निम्नलिखित अस्थायी पदों के एवज में संविदा आधार पर भर्ती के लिए पात्र भारतीय नागरिकों से ऑनलाइन आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं। इन पदों पर भर्ती प्रारंभ में एक वर्ष की अवधि के लिए होगी तथा इसे मार्च **2026** तक वर्ष-दर-वर्ष आधार पर या परियोजना के समाप्त होने, जो भी पहले हो, तक बढ़ाया जा सकेगा। अस्थायी पदों का विवरण नीचे दिया गया है:

Online applications are invited from eligible Indian Nationals for engagement on contract basis against the following temporary positions in the projects to be approved for the period 2021 – 26 by Govt. of India. The positions will be initially for a period of one year, extendable based on performance/project requirement on year-to-year basis till March 2026 or co-terminus with the projects whichever is earlier. The details of the contract positions are given below:

क्रम संख्या Sl. No.	पद का नाम Name of the position	आरक्षण Reservation					पदों की संख्या No. of Posts	आयु सीमा Age limit
		अनारक्षित श्रेणी UR	अनुसूचित जाति SC	अनुसूचित जनजाति ST	अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग OBC	आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर वर्ग EWS		
1.	परियोजना वैज्ञानिक III Project Scientist III	9	–	–	–	–	9	45 yrs.
2.	परियोजना वैज्ञानिक II Project Scientist II	23	–	–	–	–	23	40 yrs.
3.	परियोजना वैज्ञानिक I Project Scientist I	26	9	4	15	5	59	35 yrs.
4.	परियोजना सहायक Project Assistant	17	5	2	9	3	36	30 yrs.
5.	परियोजना वैज्ञानिक प्रशासनिक सहायक Project Scientific Administrative Assistant	5	–	–	1	–	6	30 yrs.
6.	विशेषज्ञ / परामर्शक Expert / Consultant (वैज्ञानिक-4) (Scientific-4) / (प्रशासनिक-1) (Admin -1)	5	–	–	–	–	5	65 yrs.

पदों की संख्या अनिश्चित है तथा वास्तविक आवश्यकता एवं भारत सरकार के आदेशों के आधार पर इसमें अंतर हो सकता है। पद, आरक्षण, समेकित परिलब्धियां, शैक्षणिक अर्हताएं, आयु, अनुभव और अनुबंध पदों के उत्तरदायित्व, आवेदन पत्र के प्रारूप तथा अन्य सामान्य शर्तों की जानकारी INCOIS की वेबसाइट www.incois.gov.in पर "Vacancies" के तहत उपलब्ध है।

The number of positions is tentative and is likely to vary depending upon actual requirement and orders of Government of India. Details about the positions, reservation, consolidated emoluments, academic qualifications, age, experience and responsibilities of the contract positions, format of application and other general conditions are available at INCOIS website www.incois.gov.in under 'Vacancies'.

ऑनलाइन आवेदन जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 09 सितंबर, 2022 (भारतीय समयानुसार शाम 05:00 बजे तक)।
Last date for submission of Online application is **September 09, 2022 (upto 05:00 p.m. IST).**

निदेशक, इंकोइस
Director, INCOIS
Advt. No. INCOIS/RMT/04/2022
विज्ञापन सं. इंकोइस/आर.एम.टी./04/2022

KSEB KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - TENDER NOTICE
O/o the Chief Engineer, (Commercial &Tariff), Vydyuthi Bhavanam,Thiruvananthapuram
Tender invited from Utilities and Traders for banking power with KSEB Ltd during the period from 01.02.2023 to 30.09.2023.
Tender No.CE(C&P)/Banking Tender-1/2022-23/
Last Date-26.08.2022, 2.00 pm
Visit www.kseb.in
Ref : PR/MC1/F255/2022

"Save Electricity"
Madhya Gujarat Vij Co. Ltd.
Corporate office : 5th Floor, Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan, Race Course, Vadodara
TENDER NOTICE No : (ID: 540995)
MGVCL Web site: www.mgvcl.com Dept-GOG: http://guj-epd.gov.in
Online tender is invited for **Appointment of Agency to be engaged For Centralised call centre management** for MGVCL, as per specification, terms and condition of tender. Tender documents are available on web site: **https://mgvcl.nprocure.com** (for online submission, view and down load) and another website of GUVNL/MGVCL **www.gseb.com** & **www.mgvcl.com** (for view and download only). Interested vendors may visit the above web sites.
***Note*: Be in touch with our web sites till opening of tender.**
Additional Chief Engineer (Proc)

NMDC Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)
NMDC Iron & Steel Plant, Post – Nagarnar (Bastar) C.G. PIN 494001
Email:srinivasprata@nmdc.co.in; wskhiwrale@nmdc.co.in
CIN-L13100TG1958GOI001674; GSTIN: 22AAACN7325A3Z5
CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT
NMDC Limited, A "NAVARATNA" Public Sector Company under Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India, invites **Offline bids** from experienced domestic bidders for the followings tender enquiry with start and end date as below for 3.0 MTPA Integrated Steel Plant at Nagarnar, near Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh state.
Name of the work: Operation and Maintenance of Plant Illumination system & Electrical installation of various buildings of NISP for 3.0 MTPA Integrated steel plant at Nagarnar, Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh state
Tender no & Date: NISP/CONTRACTS/M&C/324/O&M-45/2022/290 Dated: 20.08.2022 | **Last date of submission:** 19.09.2022.
The detailed NIT and Bid documents can be viewed and/or downloaded from NMDC website http://www.nmdc.co.in, and Central Public Procurement portal (CPPPORTAL) http://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app.
The Bidders, on regular basis are required to visit the NMDC's website/CPP Portal websites for corrigendum, if any, at a future date.
For further clarification, please contact HOD (Contracts) Email: nispmaterials@nmdc.co.in; srinivasprata@nmdc.co.in; wskhiwrale@nmdc.co.in
HOD (Contracts)
हर एक काम देश के नाम

BHARATIYA RESERVE BANK NOTE MUDRAN (P) LIMITED
(WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF RESERVE BANK OF INDIA)
Note Mudran Nagar, Mysuru-570 003, Karnataka, India
Tel : +91 821 2582909/15/25, Fax : +91 821 2582099
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BID (OPEN TENDER ENQUIRY) THROUGH E-TENDERING
E-Tenders are invited through MSTC for Supply of Block Board Packing boxes
i) For BRBNMPL, Mysuru - 51,000 boxes
ii) For BRBNMPL, Salboni - 65,000 boxes
Tender No.: 031/MYS/MMD/2022-23
MSTC Event No.: BRBNMPL/MYSURU PRESS/MMD/1/22-23/ET/1-BLOCK BOARD PACKING BOXES
Last date of submission of bids for the above tender is 19/09/2022. Vendors / Bidders are required to register themselves online with www.mstcecommerce.com for participation. The details are also published in our website www.brbnmpl.co.in. Amendments/ Corrigendum to the e-tender if any, issued in future will only be notified on the BRBNMPL's website and MSTC website as given above and will not be published in Newspaper.
Sr. General Manager

Office of the Electricity Department
Thrissur Corporation, Thrissur,
Date : 12.08.2022
PDS-2104/22
THRISSUR CORPORATION - ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT
Re-e-Tender Notice
SBD for appointment of Project Management Agency for TCED
For more details please log on to www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Sd/-
Assistant secretary

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, BANGALORE - 560 064
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in e-mail: snm.rwfblr@gmail.com
Tender Notice No. RWF/S/005/2022-23 Dated16/08/2022
On behalf of the President of India, the Principal Chief Materials Manager invites Electronic Open Tender from experienced OEMs / Manufacturers or authorized agents for supply of the following items on the Indian Railways e-portal www.ireps.gov.in. The tender documents and the Corrigendum to the Tenders, if any, will be available on the portal only.

Sl No	Tender No	Item Description	Quantity
1	P2225385	UPGRADATION OF PLC CONTROL SYSTEM &PLC CONTROL PANEL.Pre bid conference on 02/09/2022 @15.30 hrs.	01 set each

Tender Closing Date and Time : 03/10/2022, 14.00 Hrs.
Tender details can be viewed on our website www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in or www.ireps.gov.in
Principal Chief Materials Manager

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

An unknown dead body of a male approximately noticed as age 40 yrs was found in Pampa river at Venattukadu area under Pulimkunnu PS limit. In this regard a case was registered in Cr. 341/2022 u/s 174 Cr.PC. The dead body was found worn with a kaki colour Shirt and Black pants. After the official procedures the unidentified dead body is kept at Medical college Mortuary. If any information is received regarding the above person please inform to the nearest Police Station or the below mentioned phone numbers.
CONTACT NUMBER.
SHO Pulinkunnu PS - 9497987061
DySP, Ambalappuzha - 9497940865
District Police Chief, Alappuzha - 9497996982
RO/02067/F2/2022/I&PRD

STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, ODISHA
PARIBESH BHAWAN, A/118, NILAKANTHANAGAR, UNIT-VIII, NAYAPALLI, BHUBANESWAR - 751 012
Website : www.ospcboard.org ; EPABX : 0674-2562847; Email: paribesh1@ospcboard.org
No.: 14814 SPCB/ICZM/506/2019-2020 Date : 17/08/22
E-TENDER CALL NOTICE
Notice Inviting E-Tender for **executing Dry Docking Repair Work of 'MV Sagar Utkal' berthed at DST Berth, Paradeep Port, Paradeep. Online Bids** through e-Tender portal (**https://tendersodisha.gov.in**) are invited from eligible bidders for executing Dry Docking Repair Work of 'MV Sagar Utkal' as per the particulars mentioned below :

Sl.No.	Bid Reference No.	Item Name	Bid Document Cost
01	TCN No: Dt.	Executing Dry Docking Repair Work of 'MV Sagar Utkal' berthed at DST Berth, Paradeep Port, Paradeep	Free of Cost

Sl.No.	Particulars	Date and Time
01.	Date of Publishing of tender	19.08.2022
02.	Bid document download start date	19.08.2022 (4.00 PM)
03.	Duration of downloading of bid document	14 Days
04.	Last date of download of Bid document	03.09.2022 (12.00 PM)
05.	Opening of Technical Bid Folder	05.09.2022 (4.00 PM) Conference Hall at Central Laboratory Plot No.59 & 2&3 Chandaka I.E Patia, KIIT, Bhubaneswar-751024
06.	All other Information	All other information will be updated in https://tendersodisha.gov.in and www.ospcboard.org

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, EMDs, Prequalification criteria and terms & condition are available in the website: **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** and **www.ospcboard.org**. The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.
Member Secretary
CAD-1554: OPR-08012/110223/2223

TAMIL NADU MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Tamilnadu Undertaking)
No.417, Pantheon Road, Egmore, Chennai-600 008.
Phone: 044-2819 1890, 2819 0259.
Website : www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in
E-Mail : mngrpurdrug.tnmsc@tn.gov.in
Sealed Tenders are invited for the fixing rate contract for **Insecticide and Larvicides** by TNMSC Ltd., Chennai - 600008, from the Manufacturers or direct importer having Valid License having three years Market Standing.

Tender Reference No.	014/M(P)/RE-INSECT-LARVI/ TNMSC/2022, Dated.20.08.2022
Tender Document Sale Period	20.08.2022 to 29.08.2022
Last Date and Time for receipt of tender	30.08.2022 upto 11.00 AM
Date and Time of opening	30.08.2022 at 11.30 AM

The tender document can be downloaded from the websites of **www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in** and **www.tenders.tn.gov.in** on free of cost.
DIPR/ 3816 /TENDER/2022 General Manager (Drugs)

CATTLE FEED PLANT-LAMBIYAKALAN
(A Unit of Raj. Coop. Dairy Federation Ltd., Jaipur), NH-48, Lambiyakalan, Via Reyla, Dist. Bhilwara (Rajasthan). Email: clplambiya@gmail.com
ई–निविदा सूचना
पशु आहार संयंत्र लाम्बियाकलां पर अनुभवी सप्लायर्स/फर्मों से ई-निविदा के माध्यम से निम्नलिखित निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है।

S. No.	Description of item	Bid Value	UBN No.	Bid Publishing Date	Technical Bid Opening Date
1	Procurement of Manpower for Cattle feed plant operations and maintenance at CFP Lambiyakalan	120.00 Lac	CDF2223SLRC00642	08.08.2022	31.08.2022
2	Tender for Supply of LSP	20.00 Lac	CDF2223GSRC00640	08.08.2022	25.08.2022
3	Tender for Supply Thread Cone	1.80 Lac	CDF2223GSRC00643	08.08.2022	25.08.2022
4	Job work for Loading Unloading	90.00 Lac	CDF2223SLRC00641	08.08.2022	26.08.2022

निविदा डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड किये जाने व प्राप्ति करने की तारीख, निविदा शर्तें आदि का सम्पूर्ण विवरण विभाग की वेबसाईट www.sarasmilkfed.rajasthan.gov.in & www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in i.e. spp portal एवं http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर अथवा संयंत्र कार्यालय में देखी जा सकती है। (डी. भवानी कुमारन)
प्रबन्धक

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY
Rashtrapati Nivas, Shimla-171005
Advertisement No.:05/08/2022
Indian Institute of Advanced Study, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Education and fully financed by the Government of India, seeks applications for the post of **SECRETARY** in Pay Matrix Level-14 (Rs.1,44,200-2,18,200) as per 7th CPC on deputation/Foreign Service from All India Service and All India Group 'A' Service on standard terms of deputation as amended from time to time. All India Service and All India Group 'A' Service officials holding analogous post on regular basis in the parent cadre/department or working in Level-13 & 13-A as per 7th CPC are also eligible to apply.
The candidates selected for the post shall be provided accommodation on the campus of the Institute on payment of licence fee. Applications through proper channel, on prescribed format (available on the website of the Institute) along with testimonials should reach the Director, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Rashtrapati Nivas, Shimla – 171005 latest by 03rd October 2022 at 05.00 PM. A scanned copy of the application duly-signed by the applicant, can, however, be sent to the Director, IIAS, Shimla on e-mail ID director@iias.ac.in (as an advance copy). For more information please visit website : www.iias.ac.in.

Mishap at Meghalaya coal mine leaves one dead, another hurt

Accidents in such illegal mines have claimed at least 30 lives in last five years

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

An accident at an illegal coal mining in Meghalaya killed one person and left another battling for his life.

Police said the incident happened in the Shallang area of West Khasi Hills district on Thursday night. The cause of the mishap was not immediately known.

"According to the preliminary report I have received from the team sent to the remote area, the body of one person was recovered while the injured was rescued," the district's Superintendent of Police, Herbert G. Lyngdoh said.

The two persons, who were trapped in the coal mining, were identified as Lependro Sangma, 34, and Hendid Momin, 33, both from Uguri village. Sangma died on the spot, police said.

Death traps: The National Green Tribunal has banned the hazardous rathole mining. • FILE PHOTO

Anti-coal mining activist Agnes Kharshiing, who survived a near-fatal attack by the henchmen of some coal barons in 2018, said the incident has once again exposed the State government's claim that there is no illegal rathole coal mining in Meghalaya.

The National Green Tribunal had banned the hazardous rathole coal mining in April 2014. The Supreme Court also imposed restrictions later on, allowing only the coal extracted till the ban came into effect to be transported.

But coal mining has continued illegally allegedly because several politicians and officials are either owners of the mines or are involved in the illegal coal trade. Consequently, accidents in the unregulated mines have claimed at least 30 lives in the last five years.

In March, the High Court of Meghalaya had directed the Conrad K. Sangma government to set up a committee "without any political interference" to implement the ban on rathole coal mining.

The court had directed the government to dispose of the previously-mined coal and ensure that there is no fresh mining. Assigning a probe by retired judge B.P. Katakey, the high court also cited allegations that coal continues to be illegally mined in Meghalaya.

Shortage of drugs forces HIV patients to carry on with stir

NACO officials have assured them of fresh supply

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

Protests by a group of HIV-positive people alleging shortage of certain antiretroviral (ARV) drugs entered its 30th day on Friday with officials from the National Aids Control Organisation (NACO) stating that they had met with the group and assured them of fresh supply of medicines.

"Fresh supplies are being expedited and airlifted to priority locations," the Health Ministry said, while protestors maintained that they would continue the *dharna* until "all HIV patients in India start receiving one month of medicines".

"The representatives acknowledged these improvements in stock availability and dispensation for one month, especially in Delhi and many other States, yet they continued to raise anecdotal issues of 'stock-out' of ARVs in a few States as well as lay instances of patients not receiving drugs," the Ministry added.

A placard made by HIV patients at the NACO office in New Delhi.

The official said they had been in constant touch with the protestors from the day they had launched the *dharna* at the Chanderlok office premises.

Particular efforts have been made to ensure the safety of the protestors in terms of making available drinking water, electricity and basic amenities at the NACO's office premises, the Ministry said.

NACO has maintained that it will continue to work in partnership with the community and urged the representatives to end the *dharna*.

Additionally, it said that since NACO is a government office, protests during weekends will be non-productive.

"We appeal to the protestors to have faith in the system, end the protest, and vacate the NACO premises," the organisation said. The Central government had earlier noted that there is adequate stock of ARV medicines for around 95% of People Living with HIV in India.

78 govindas injured in Mumbai

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

A total of 78 *govindas* are injured and being treated in State-run hospitals in Mumbai while celebrating *Dahi handi* on the occasion of Janmashtami.

According to Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, 78 people were reported injured out of which 67 were treated and discharged and 11 are being treated.

Two of them were admitted to J.J. hospital, three to St George hospital, 11 to GT hospital, nine to Nair Hospital, 17 to KEM hospital, seven to Sion hospital, two to Trauma hospital, six to Cooper hospital, one to Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Hospital, six at V N Desai Hospital, 10 in Rajawadi Hospital, and four in Poddar Hospital. CM Eknath Shinde had announced public holiday on August 19.

IN BRIEF

Ajay Bhalla gets another year as Home Secretary

NEW DELHI

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved a one-year extension in service to Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla. This is Mr. Bhalla's second extension in service. His two-year fixed term ended on June 30, 2021. The ACC on August 12, 2021 granted a one-year extension, beyond the two-year fixed tenure that was to end on August 22 the same year.

ICMR may conduct sero survey for monkeypox

NEW DELHI

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) may conduct a sero-survey among contacts of monkeypox patients to check for the presence of antibodies and find out how many of them were asymptomatic, official sources said on Friday. As of now, it is not known what is the proportion of people who stay asymptomatic of the viral infection. India so far has reported ten cases of monkeypox. PTI

Wanted to join Army, but couldn't: Rajnath Singh

IMPHAL

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said that he wanted to join the Army but could not do so due to difficulties in his family. Addressing the personnel, Mr. Singh recounted how he appeared for the examination to get into the forces. "I also wanted to join the Army. But, because of certain situations, including the death of my father, I couldn't join the Army," he said. PTI

Protests on over death of Dalit boy

Bhim Army chief prevented from visiting kin

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

Rajasthan's Jalore district has been witnessing protests and demonstrations by rival groups since the death of nine-year-old Dalit boy Inder Meghwal in Surana village on August 13 allegedly because of an assault by his school-teacher. The boy's family is reportedly living in fear in the village, apprehending an attack by the crowds belonging to higher castes.

In mourning: Officials meeting family members of Inder Meghwal in Jalore. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT.

While Dalit groups staged a demonstration outside the Collectorate in Jalore demanding justice for the victim's family on Thursday, the organisations representing higher castes held a big public meeting at Malkeshwar Math temple in the town with the demand for "fair and impartial" investigation.

Bhim Army chief Chandra Shekhar Azad was prevented for the second time on Friday from visiting the village and was stopped by the police at the Jodhpur airport. Mr. Azad spoke to Inder's family members over the phone. Mr. Azad said the higher castes were trying to build pressure on the administration by organising a series of panchayats despite the prohibitory orders being in force in the region.

Jalore Collector Nishant Jain and Superintendent of Police Harsh Vardhan Agarwalla went to Surana for the second time since Inder's death and assured his family of all possible help, security and impartial investigation.

Teacher with disabilities wins discrimination case in SC

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

A teacher, living with disabilities, who fought the Rajasthan government's decision to demote him in return for transferring him to his home town won his case in the Supreme Court, which declared the marginalisation of the disabled as a human rights issue.

The Supreme Court took exception to the hard bargain the disabled teacher had to endure. A Bench led by Justice Indira Banerjee also noted how the High Court did not appreciate the plight of the teacher, Net Ram Yadav, represented by advocate Rahul Shyam Bhandari.

Mr. Yadav had asked for transfer from his then working place, 550 kms. away from his district, so that he could be near his family who could support him.

The court's attention was drawn to a circular issued by the State government in 2000 enabling employees with disabilities to be posted at a convenient place near their family, relatives, friends.

The court said the benefit of the circular should be extended to Mr. Yadav though he had joined as a teacher in 1993.

"Exclusion of the benefit of the circular to handicapped employees already in employment at the time of its issuance, would violate the fundamental right of equality of those employees," Justice Banerjee wrote in the judgment.

There is an increasing global concern about the sidelining of the disabled, the court noted.

U.P. to generate 16 GW solar power in five years

State aims to develop 20 solar cities

STAFF REPORTER
LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh government unveiled the draft of its Solar Energy Policy-2022 on Friday, which suggests that the State would be targeting generation of 16,000 Mega Watt of renewable power by 2026-27.

The policy was released by the Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNEDA). The government has proposed to meet the ambitious 16,000 MW target by generating 4,000 MW from solar rooftop projects, 2,000 MW from distributed solar generation and the rest (10,000 MW) from utility/grid scale solar projects and solar parks.

Under the proposed policy, the government would develop 20 solar cities covering 10 lakh households with rooftop installations. The cities include Meerut, Varanasi, Bareilly, Moradabad, Saharanpur, Firozabad, Mirzapur, Kanpur, Lucknow, Agra, Ghaziabad, Jhansi, Muzaffarnagar, Mathura, Azamgarh, Ayodhya and Aligarh. The draft also proposes rooftop solar installations in government buildings and in 21,000 unelectrified primary schools.

"The policy aims to develop solar parks, promotion of small decentralized grid connected solar power, promotion of solar installations and strengthening of transmission network for evacuation of solar projects by development of Green Energy Corridor in Bundelkhand region," the proposal reads.

China Pal, the idol-maker who became an icon

She is a respected member of Kolkata's idol-making fraternity that is based at Kumartuli

BISHWANATH GHOSH
KOLKATA

That she went to China in 2018 to attend an art festival in Kunming has no connection with her name. She has always been known as China, derived from the Bengali expression *chai na*, or "don't want", having been born as the sixth child of her parents, who already had three daughters and didn't want any more.

"I hope they named me in jest and not in irritation," says China Pal, 45, who has carried forward her late father's profession of idol-making and who looks after her mother, now in her mid-nineties. She is today a respected member of Kolkata's idol-making fraternity that is based in the riverside settlement of Kumartuli and has won numerous honours and made appearances in several high-profile events in the recent years. Ahead of this year's Durga Puja, she will appear in the commercial of a top jewellery brand; the shooting took place recently and she was required to paint the eyes of the goddess.

China, in that sense, is a celebrity of sorts, but she insists that she does not allow this recognition to go to her head because she has seen it all. "I meet girls who say they want to be like me. I tell them that my life has been that of a struggle, I have fought my way to wherever I am today and I like to stay rooted," says the artisan, sitting in a workshop packed with half-finished idols.

Hard at work: China Pal learned the craft of idol-making from her father and carry forward his legacy.

It was around the same time – with some weeks to go for Durga Puja – in 1994, when her father, Iswar Hemanta Pal, passed away after a brief illness. China, around 16 at the time, took over the business. Her father didn't approve of her working on idols, neither did the in-laws of her elder siblings, but she would sneak into the workshop when the father would be away for lunch or on days he stayed home. That's how she learned her craft.

"When he died, there were two unfinished sets of Durga idols. The workers wouldn't listen to me – they would keep disappearing for smoke breaks. An uncle somehow helped me finish those two idols. That year, our total profit was ₹3,000," recalls China.

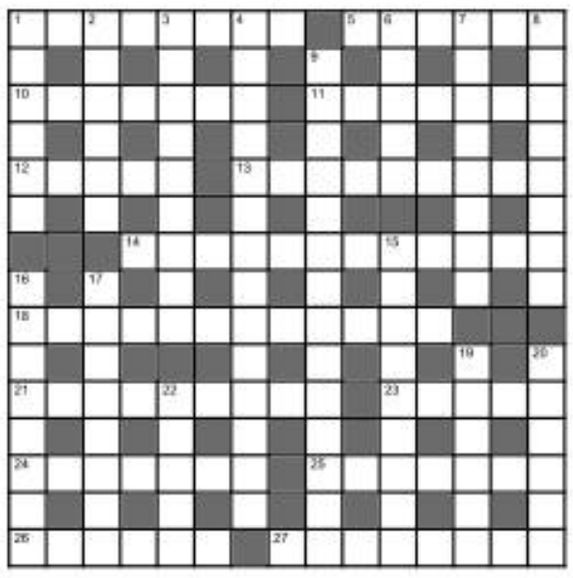
"During the early years I would overhear people saying: 'How long is she going to last!' But I've proven them all wrong. The workers reported for work at eight in the morning but I would be here 10 minutes before them," she says.

TH CROSSWORD + 13640

(set by Dr. X)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN



Across

1 Fellows having trouble with 'it' get drug that's guaranteed to work (4-4)
5 Old, small game bird (6)
10 Hit member involved in rejecting permit for bar (7)
11 Fell backwards, escorted outside bar in high spirits (7)
12 Crook in sleaziest affair (5)
13 Mocking vile racialist (9)
14 Short course in deduction and prying (12)
18 Difficult youngster starting to lie in scrutiny, caught with heroin in fair (7,5)
21 Women in stalls dance in exploitative workplace (9)
23 Subject in examination, new for boy (5)
24 Predicament of director getting e-mail about stealing money (7)
25 Trapping nilgai, lion finally jumped (7)
26 Foremost of sleuths in case cracked by Yard, most devious (6)
27 I thus interpret line on map denoting linguistic feature (8)

Down

1 Thief slyly steals special amulet (6)
2 Cool off, to some extent (2,1,3)
3 Uncertainty in important knockout round (9)
4 Hateful damsel craftily entraps associate with maximum effort (4,5,5)
6 Told to watch step (5)
7 Restrained English jerk involved in rift (8)
8 Hosting retro party, roared and sang with rapidly changing pitch (8)
9 Instinctive that this might tear while bending over (4-2-3-5)
15 Weakening in arena, consuming energy drinks (9)
16 Espies rogue filming cheat's revolting affairs (8)
17 Leave after a little racy pole dancing act (4-4)
19 Express disapproval about egg and fish (6)
20 Restricts with hard borders (6)
22 Fixes broken items (5)

SUDOKU

9			7				4	
			2	9	3		1	
	6							
4	1		5				9	3
	7			3			6	
3	9				1		2	4
							5	
	3		9	2	8			
	2				4			1

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to puzzle 13639

C	O	V	E	N	T	R	Y	S
O	E	U	O	M	Y	A	H	M
M	U	R	O	M	A	V	A	I
E	A	B	D	N	I	I	E	D
D	A	N	G	E	R	M	A	N
Y	D	R	A	E	S	I	N	U
M	A	D	C	A	P	R	E	A
G	H	R	R	A	H	R	E	S
O	U	N	D	S	H	E	E	T
E	N	I	E	S	E	T	A	S
D	I	C	S	A	C	R	E	D
C	O	W	T	U	H	M	R	A
R	E	A	S	T	I	V	A	T
E	L	O	I	R	E	P	T	N
L	T	E	M	S	E	N	S	I
G	N	N	E	E	D	L	E	S
T	O	O	L	S	H	E	D	S

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	3	4	1	7	6	2	9	5
9	2	7	3	4	5	1	8	6
5	1	6	8	9	2	3	4	7
3	7	5	4	2	1	8	6	9
2	6	8	9	5	3	4	7	1
4	9	1	7	6	8	5	3	2
6	4	3	5	1	9	7	2	8
7	5	2	6	8	4	9	1	3
1	8	9	2	3	7	6	5	4

FAITH

Episode in Kailasa

Interpreters of Sekkizhar have always heaped encomiums on his handling the nuances of Tamizh language to convey the true spirit of devotion that binds the devout with God. This is most explicit in the poet's description of the scene in Kailasa that is the prelude to the descent of Aalala Sundarar from there to live in this world as Sundaramurthy for a brief period, pointed out Nallur Sa Saravanan in a discourse.

We have to be careful in understanding the episode that happened in Kailasa. Aalala Sundarar was picking flowers for the Lord with no particular intention in his mind except that he should select the best and most suitable flowers. When thus engaged, he happens to notice two female attendants of Parvati who had also come to collect flowers. At the moment, God comes to the Nandanavana and commands Sundarar that he has to be born on the earth because he had looked at the girls with desire. Sekkizhar is very clear that Sundarar merely looked at the girls and there was no desire in him. He shows that God chooses this incident to send Sundarar to achieve some mission on earth.

It should be remembered that Aalala Sundarar is already a realised soul, who has crossed the bonds of samsara and is privileged to serve the Lord in Kailasa. He immediately understands that it is God's Sankalpa and merely accepts His command without any argument or protest at that moment. But while he is blessed to be aware of God's thoughts is also fully aware that once on earth it will be difficult to overcome the pulls of Maya. So, he pleads with the Lord that lest he is caught in the world, the Lord should take him back into His fold at the earliest. Sundarar does argue later with the Lord when He appears at the wedding scene to claim that he is His servant.

INTERVIEW | YU-JIE CHEN

'People in Taiwan do not want to be treated as a pawn in a great powers' game'

Pelosi's visit is seen not so much as a genuine trigger point, but as a pretext under which Beijing could launch more drills, says expert at Academia Sinica

ANANTH KRISHNAN

The Taiwan question is in the international spotlight following China's unprecedented military drills surrounding the island in the wake of the recent visit by U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the most high-profile from the U.S. to Taiwan in 25 years. While Taiwan has emerged as a key flashpoint in already tense U.S.-China ties, lost in the focus on the geopolitics is the question of how Taiwan and its 23 million people view the current moment. In an interview, Yu-Jie Chen, Assistant Research Professor at Academia Sinica in Taiwan, whose work focuses on international law and cross-strait relations, says Taiwanese are "pragmatic" and don't want war, but want to preserve the status quo. Edited excerpts.

What has been the general reaction in Taiwan so far, both to the Pelosi visit, and to China's exercises?

■ While some Taiwanese were understandably nervous and concerned, most have remained calm and collected during China's military exercises. The general situation on the ground is business as usual – we still carry on with our daily lives. The main reason for this relative placidity is that the people in Taiwan are quite used to China's hostility whenever the relations across the Taiwan Strait deteriorate, and China's threats have escalated in recent years. Additionally, the assessment in Taiwan was that there would be no invasion at this time. Having said that, China's military exercises have largely made Taiwanese more aware of the possibility of a real strike. The next question is what to do about it. Discussion in Taiwan has revolved around reforming the military, including better training for our reserve forces and extending the conscription period from four months to one year. Yet, in addition to these military discussions, I believe that the Taiwan government must also better prepare civilians for a conflict scenario.

One criticism of the Pelosi visit is that it was "only symbolism", and ultimately left Taiwan with a more adverse strategic environment. Has it been seen that way in Taiwan?

Taiwanese are pragmatic and don't want a war, but want to preserve the status quo

■ Symbolism matters in diplomacy, not to mention powerful symbolism that emanates from the strong support of the U.S. Congress. I do not see Pelosi's visit as changing the adverse strategic environment with which Taiwan has already been confronted, and a number of colleagues that I've spoken to agree. The visit might have accelerated this trend, but China's Taiwan policy had already been trending towards more hostility since 2016 after Taiwan elected, and reelected in 2020, current President Tsai Ing-wen of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP). Given those developments, the escalation of adversity across the Taiwan Strait would appear to be a matter of course. Pelosi's visit is seen not so much as a genuine trigger point, but as a pretext under which Beijing could launch more drills that it had already planned to carry out around Taiwan.

How have views in Taiwan evolved on the future of cross-strait relations? Until recently, it seemed the status quo, or some version of it, was something broadly acceptable to all parties. Each is now accusing the other of trying to change it. Is the status quo no longer sustainable?

■ Taiwanese are pragmatic – we don't want a war, so, when polled, people tend to choose the "maintain status quo indefinitely" option (currently standing at 28.6%), instead of directly choosing independence, in order not to provoke a conflict with China. In Taiwan's perspective, the "status quo" means de facto independence. This polling tendency is what I call "coerced non-decision". If poll respondents were able to voice their true preferences, or weigh potential political outcomes without also having to consider China's threat to use force against Taiwan, Taiwanese may not necessarily choose the "status quo".

All in all, the rapidly coalescing Taiwanese identity and the strong inclination to retain our democratic way of life have considerable implications for cross-strait relations, suggesting that as time presses on, China's plan to absorb Taiwan peacefully and "reeducate" the Taiwanese [as China's Ambassador to France advocated this month] are unlikely to work. On the other side of the Strait, we also see mounting aggressiveness towards Taiwan with China's increasing military penetration of Taiwan's airspace and surrounding waters. This kind of bilateral interaction, situated in the context of an international environment where the United States and China are competing to determine who is the greater power in the region, is a very dangerous combination...

The people in Taiwan do not want to be treated as a pawn in a great powers' game. I recall when Donald Trump was the U.S. President, he suggested that Taiwan could be a bargaining chip to reach a deal with China on trade. That incident was alarming to many in Taiwan and a lesson to us that, as a small country in between two superpowers, Taiwan needs to tread water very carefully, playing our own cards just right.

(Read the full interview at https://bit.ly/3wgcOrW)

UN chief visits Odesa as Russian bombardment kills 5 in Donetsk

He urges Moscow not to take nuclear plant off grid as its electricity belongs to Kyiv

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
ODESA

UN chief Antonio Guterres visited the war-scarred southern Ukraine's main port of Odesa on Friday, a day after he said Turkey and Ukraine hoped to scale up their landmark grain export deal with Russia.

The visit was due as Russian forces pursued relentless bombardment in Ukraine's eastern Donbas region, with Kyiv reporting five people killed across the industrial province of Donetsk in the last 24 hours.

Voicing concern: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, centre, during his visit to the Odesa Port on Friday. • AFP

As part of the UN chief's visit to Ukraine, he met with Turkish leader Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who helped broker the grain deal inked in Istanbul, and Ukrainian leader Volodymyr Zelensky.

At a joint press conference with the three leaders, Mr. Guterres said the United Nations aimed to "scale-up" operations under the deal ahead of winter.

Responding to reports that Russia was planning to cut off the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power station from Ukraine's grid, he said, "The electricity from Zaporizhzhia is Ukrainian electricity... This principle must be fully respected".

Meanwhile, the U.S. on Friday announced a new $775 million package of defence equipment and ammunition for Ukraine, including various types of missiles, artillery and mine-clearing systems.

Finnish PM takes drugs test after party video goes viral

Never in my life have I used any drugs, says Sanna Marin

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
HELSINKI

Finland's Prime Minister said on Friday she had taken a drug test and reiterated she had never taken narcotics, after a video of the 36-year-old partying sparked criticism.

The leaked video, which shows Sanna Marin dancing and partying with a group of friends and celebrities, has been shared widely on social media and local media.

Some have interpreted comments by the partygoers heard on the video as referring to narcotics, something heavily debated on social media and strongly denied by the Prime Minister.

Sanna Marin

"To clear up any suspicions, I have taken a drug test today," she said. The results will be ready within a week and shared with the media as soon as they are ready, she added.

Ms. Marin has previously said she was "spending an evening with friends" and that the videos were "filmed in private premises".

She admitted to having drunk alcohol. In addition to denying taking drugs, she said she did not witness any drug use by any attendees.

"Never in my life, not even in my youth, have I ever used any drugs," she said on Friday.

Ms. Marin's behaviour in the video has nonetheless been criticised by some as inappropriate for a PM.

Putin, Xi to attend G20 meet: report

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
JAKARTA

Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping will attend the upcoming Group of 20 summit, the leader of host nation Indonesia said in an interview published on Friday.

The pair's attendance would set the stage for showdown talks with U.S. President Joe Biden at a time when the U.S. is at odds with both powers, particularly over crises in Ukraine and Taiwan.

"Xi Jinping will come. President Putin has also told me he will come," President Joko Widodo said, according to the report.

'Gandhi statue at U.S. temple vandalised'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW YORK

In a possible hate crime, a group of six unidentified persons destroyed a statue of Mahatma Gandhi with a sledgehammer at a Hindu temple in Queens, New York.

India on Friday strongly condemned the "despicable action" and took up the matter with the U.S. authorities to ensure those responsible for the act are held accountable.

The New York City police said the miscreants vandalised "a religious statue with sledgehammer in front of Tulsi Mandir".

China jails Canadian tycoon for 13 years

Xiao was convicted of financial crimes

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BEIJING

A Chinese-born Canadian tycoon, who disappeared from Hong Kong in 2017, was sentenced on August 19 to 13 years in prison for a multibillion-dollar string of financial offences and his company was fined $8.1 billion, a court announced.

Xiao Jianhua was convicted of misusing billions of dollars of deposits from banks and insurers controlled by his Tomorrow Group and offering bribes to officials, a Shanghai court said on its social media account. Xiao was fined 6.5 million yuan ($9,50,000) and his company was fined 55 billion yuan ($8.1 billion), the court said.

Xiao was last seen at a Hong Kong hotel in January 2017 and was believed to have been taken by Chinese authorities.

The Canadian government said diplomats were blocked from attending his July 5 trial. Xiao was deemed to be a Chinese citizen, which meant he wasn't entitled to see Canadian diplomats under a treaty between the two governments, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said.

IS member jailed for life by U.S. court

REUTERS
ALEXANDRIA

A member of an Islamic State cell known as the "Beatles" was sentenced to life in prison by a U.S. court on Friday for the deaths of four American hostages in Syria.

The former British national, El Shafee Elsheikh, 34, was given eight concurrent life sentences after being convicted in April of hostage-taking, conspiracy to murder U.S. citizens and supporting a terrorist organisation. The trial of Elsheikh was the most significant prosecution of an IS militant in the U.S.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರ ಕಚೇರಿ
ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ

ಸಂಗ್ರಾನಿಮುನೈವಿ/ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ/ಎಪಿ-1,3/ಟೆಂಡರ್/2022-23/926 ದಿನಾಂಕ:10-08-2022

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್-ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರ, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ ರವರಿಂದ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ.

Badami Taluka JJM-2215:
1) Indent No- 44735 (Aladakatti) APT- 62.81 Lakhs
2) Indent No- 44733 (Narasapur) APT- 73.63 Lakhs
3) Indent No- 44732 (Sumaddi) APT- 33.05 Lakhs
4) Indent No- 44731(Bachinagudd) APT- 71.95 Lakhs
Jamkhandi Taluka JJM-2215: 1) Indent No-40438 (ELSR Hulyal) APT-169.05 Lakhs Call-2

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇಎಮ್ ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಪ್ರಕಾರ
2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪಾರಂ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **20-08-2022** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **5.30** ಗಂಟೆಯ ವರೆಗೆ
3) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿಳಾಸ **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)
Corporate Office, "MESCOM BHAVANA", Bejai, Mangaluru - 575 004
Ph: 0824-2885795 CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

No: MESCOM/SEE(P)/EE(W)/AEE(W)/2022-23/384 Date: 19.08.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-Procurement Mode Only)

MESCOM invites tenders on partial turnkey basis for the following works pertaining to Koppa Division vide respective bid enquiry numbers:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Work	Bid Enquiry No.
1	Enhancement of 1x5MVA, 33/11kV Power Transformer by 12.5MVA Power Transformer at existing 2x5MVA, 33/11kV N.R Pura Sub-station in Balehonnur Sub-division	MESCOM/ 2022-23/ SS/ WORK_INDENT 1823
2	Providing additional 1x5MVA Power Transformer at existing 1x5MVA, 33/11kV Sringeri Sub-station in Sringeri Sub-division	MESCOM/ 2022-23/ SS/ WORK_INDENT 1824

The interested eligible bidders may log on to www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after **22.08.2022.**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.) (Proc.), Corporate Office

For Power Related Complaints & Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ವಿಜಯನಗರ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ
VIJAYANAGAR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, CANTONMENT BALLARI-583104
Telephones: Director No.8147796529, CAO No.8147796526 & PA No.8147796539
e-mail :directorvimsbelllary@gmail.com
website: https://vims.karnataka.gov.in

No.VIMS/SUP/TEND/05/2022-23 DATE: 19/08/2022.

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Tenders are invited from the eligible Bidders for **PROVIDING MAN POWER FOR MAINTENANCE OF CLEANING & SANITATION** at PMSSY TRAUMA CARE HOSPITAL, VIMS, Ballari for a period of 07 Months and extendable for 03 Months period in Two Bid System as per KTPP Act 1999 & Rules 2000 through e-procurement portal **website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** of Government of Karnataka. The last date for submission of Tenders will be **05/09/2022 @ 5.00 PM** interested Tenderers are requested to submit Tenders. Further details can be obtained at above website and also at **https://vims.karnataka.gov.in.** The total approximate cost of Tender is **Rs.179.00 Lakhs.**

Sd/- Director, VIMS, Bellary.
DIPR/Ballari/373/MCA/2022-23

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Ele), East Zone,
16th Floor, PUB, M.G. Road, BBMP, Bengaluru

No.: BBMP/EE/ELE/East/TEND/03/2022-23 Date: 19.08.2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Short Term) (Through E-Procurement Portal only)

Selection of the TRANSACTION ADVISOR for Implementation of Energy Efficiency Project for street lights by replacement of existing conventional lamps with LED lamps along with Centralized Control & Monitoring System (CCMS) in Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bengaluru in Karnataka.

Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike invites proposals to provide the Consultancy Services of TRANSACTION ADVISOR for CONTRACTS through e-procurement towards Implementation of Energy Efficiency Project for street lights by replacement of existing conventional lamps with LED lamps along with Centralized Control & Monitoring System (CCMS) in Bruhath Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bengaluru in Karnataka.

Calender of events: (1) Bid documents, including the Request for Proposal (**RFP**) and Draft agreement, can be downloaded from the e-procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from **22.08.2022** onwards. **(2)** A pre-bid meeting will be held at BBMP Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002 on **29.08.2022** at **11:00 a.m. (3)** Bids must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before on **05.09.2022** by **5:00 p.m. (4)** An earnest money deposit for **Rs. 2,30,000/-** is required to be submitted along with the bid in the manner set out in the RFP. **(5)** The technical bids will be opened on **07.09.2022** at **11:00 a.m.** at the BBMP Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002. **(6)** The financial bids will be opened on **12.09.2022** at **3:00 p.m.** at the BBMP Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002 within 2 days of notification of the technically qualified bidders. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Ele.), East Zone, BBMP

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: SEE/EE(O)/AEEE-1/2022-23/F-Tender/3198-203 Dt: 19.08.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-procurement mode only)

KPTCL invites tender through e-Procurement mode for **Design, Manufacture, Testing and Supply of C-Type Wedge Clamps suitable for different sizes required for replacement of age old bolted type connectors at various substations coming under Talaguppa Division in Tr(W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Shivamogga, conforming to our Technical Specifications, F.O.R.D. at Store/site basis, including insurance and transportation.**

For detailed information and to participate in the tender through e-Procurement mode please visit our website **www.kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** hyperlink **"e-Procurement"** or directly you can access the tendering website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **20.08.2022, 11.00 AM.** Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer(Ele), Tr(W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavana, MSR Colony, Shivamogga-577203. Phone: 08182-272624

APPOINTMENT

NLC India Limited
'Navratna' - Government of India Enterprise
Regd. Office : Neyveli House', 135, EVR Periyar High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai - 600 010.
CORPORATE OFFICE : BLOCK-1, NEYVELI - 607 801, TAMIL NADU.
CIN : L93090TN1956GOI003527 Website : www.nlcindia.in

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Advt. No. 07/2022

Recruitment of Executives in Various Disciplines.

NLC India Limited (NLCIL), a premier 'NAVRATNA' Public Sector Enterprise invites applications from eligible candidates for the following Executive Positions in various disciplines.

Sl. No	Post	Area of Posting	Grade & Scale of Pay (₹)	No. of Posts
1	Executive Engineer (Mechanical)	Thermal	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	51
2	Executive Engineer (Mechanical)	Mines	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	45
3	Executive Engineer (Electrical)	Thermal	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	22
4	Executive Engineer (Electrical)	Mines	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	23
5	Executive Engineer (Electrical)	Renewable Energy	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	5
6	Executive Engineer (Civil)	Thermal	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	1
7	Executive Engineer (Civil)	Mines	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	2
8	Executive Engineer (Civil)	Renewable Energy	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	9
9	Manager (Scientific)	Thermal	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	7
10	Manager (Geology)	Mines	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	6
11	Executive Engineer (Environmental Engineering)	Mines	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	5
12	Executive Engineer (Industrial Engineering)	-	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	2
13	Executive Engineer (Chemical)	Mines	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	2
14	Manager (HR)	-	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	14
15	Deputy Manager (HR)	-	E-3 (60,000 - 1,80,000)	20
16	Manager (Public Relations)	-	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	6
17	Manager (Legal)	-	E-4 (70,000 - 2,00,000)	6

For Detailed Information on Eligibility Criteria, Important Dates, Online Application, Upper Age Limit, Reservation & Relaxation and Selection Process etc., please refer to detailed advertisement to be released on **25-08-2022** in the careers page of NLCIL Website **"www.nlcindia.in"**

PUBLIC SECTOR IS YOURS: HELP IT TO HELP YOU

MARKET WATCH

	19-08-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	59,646	-1.08
US Dollar	79.84	-0.25
Gold	51,995	-0.65
Brent oil	97.7	1.96

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	871.80	38.75
Apollo Hosp	4135.35	-131.30
Asian Paints	3462.55	-52.80
Axis Bank	757.50	-7.55
Bajaj Auto	4074.55	13.90
Bajaj Finserv	16287.60	-518.30
Bajaj Finance	7101.70	-186.55
Bharti Airtel	732.30	-0.90
BPCL	338.25	-8.80
Britannia Ind	3662.55	-30.50
Cipla	1030.10	-2.10
Coal India	217.15	-4.60
Divis Lab	3696.20	-47.40
Dr Reddys Lab	4204.00	-21.10
Eicher Motors	3424.10	12.70
Grasim Ind	1605.85	-7.90
HCL Tech	970.05	-3.45
HDFC	2468.05	-29.90
HDFC Bank	1493.05	-18.65
HDFC Life	576.65	-10.10
Hero MotoCorp	2838.65	-69.55
Hindalco	427.35	-10.70
Hind Unilever	2634.55	-47.50
ICICI Bank	870.40	-14.70
Indusind Bank	1063.30	-41.80
Infosys	1597.10	14.15
ITC	312.00	-3.65
JSW Steel	664.55	-8.85
Kotak Bank	1877.00	-27.50
L&T	1936.05	41.50
M&M	1239.40	-21.75
Maruti Suzuki	8778.95	-168.75
Nestle India Ltd.	19440.90	-116.75
NTPC	157.75	-3.05
ONGC	134.60	-0.95
PowerGrid Corp	228.15	-3.20
Reliance Ind	2613.85	-47.45
SBI Life	1296.95	-27.25
State Bank	520.35	-12.00
Shree Cement	21423.20	-198.30
Sun Pharma	901.35	-15.40
Tata Consumer Products Ltd	786.95	-20.90
Tata Motors	471.00	-13.80
Tata Steel	110.05	-2.50
TCS	3385.75	4.50
Tech Mahindra	1104.15	-1.00
Titan	2440.60	-38.10
UltraTech Cement	6647.55	-56.40
UPL	768.25	-5.70
Wipro	432.45	-2.60

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 19

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	79.58	79.90
Euro	80.01	80.33
British Pound	94.22	94.61
Japanese Yen (100)	58.11	58.35
Chinese Yuan	11.67	11.72
Swiss Franc	83.20	83.53
Singapore Dollar	57.22	57.46
Canadian Dollar	61.26	61.51
Malaysian Ringgit	17.76	17.86
Australian Dollar	54.82	55.04

Source:Indian Bank

Resolution confuses more than it clarifies: MPC's Varma argued

'Withdrawal of accommodation should have been dropped given other factors'

LALATENDU MISHRA
MUMBAI

The Monetary Policy Committee's August 5 resolution accompanying the RBI's interest rate increase, which stressed that the MPC would "remain focused on withdrawal of accommodation to ensure that inflation remains within the target going forward, while supporting growth" ideally ought to have been dropped as it would only provide 'confusing guidance', MPC member Jayanth R. Varma said at the panel's meeting, the minutes released on Friday show.

"This statement confuses more than it clarifies," Mr. Varma observed. "Because the rate hike in this meeting takes the policy rate above the pre-pandemic level, "withdrawal of accommodation" ... can only mean withdrawal of the pre-pandemic accommodation that began with the rate cut from 6.50% to 6.25% in February 2019. A plain reading... would then be that the MPC is focused on taking the repo rate back to 6.50%," he said.

Terminal rate: 'A plain reading of the phrase would mean the MPC was set on taking the repo rate back to 6.5%'. • AFP

Such an indication of a terminal repo rate of 6.50% was totally unwarranted in the current situation given that the Ukraine war and monetary tightening in the advanced economies posed a very serious risk of recession in the world economy, he stressed.

However, given that inflation was at unacceptably high levels, and the projected trajectory was also above target during the entire forecast horizon, he noted that "further withdrawal of accommodation is warranted".

"The resolution should... be interpreted only as stating that there is a high likelihood of further front-loaded tightening," he emphasised.

Worries over growth and inflation easing, says FinMin

'Tax revenue, sustained decline in oil price lend confidence'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The sustained decline in crude oil price since June and the decline in the inflation rate below 7%, combined with the impressive growth in tax revenue collection, translated into a significant easing of concerns over India's growth and inflation in 2022-23, the Finance Ministry has said.

"For now, India looks better placed on the growth-inflation-external balance triangle for 2022-23 than it did two months ago," the Ministry said, asserting that few countries around the world were better placed and 'can point to a recovery in their macroeconomic fortunes in the last few months as India is able to'. Noting that domestic inflationary pressures had moderated, the Ministry in its economic review for July said that these pressures were expected to be capped, in the absence of any fresh shocks, over the coming months due to the global decline in commodity prices and steps taken by the government and the central bank.

"Household and business expectations have moderated over the last two months, indicating that the high inflation of the past few months has not entered the anchoring zone of inflation expectations," it pointed out, adding that food inflation was expected to remain in check after declining to 6.8% in July.

"Softening of inflationary pressures in India is further on the anvil as the prices of important raw materials such as iron ore, copper, tin, etc. that feed into the domestic manufacturing process, globally trended downwards in July 2022."

IN BRIEF

ALL unveils tipper for road construction use

CHENNAI

Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL) has unveiled the AVTR 4825 Tipper that is suitable for coal transportation, infrastructure and road construction projects. The tipper is powered by a 250hp H-series 4V 6-cylinder engine with i-Gen6 technology, ALL said.

Gold Bond issue price fixed at ₹5,197 per gram

MUMBAI

The issue price for the next tranche of Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2021-22, which will open for subscription for five days from Monday, has been fixed at ₹5,197 per gram of gold, the Reserve Bank of India said on Friday. The Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2022-23 Series II will be open for subscription from August 22 to 26, 2022. The RBI issues the bonds on behalf of the Centre. PTI

'FTA norms to prevail in Rules of Origin disputes'

Tax board writes to Customs officers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Exemptions specified in a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with regard to the country of origin would prevail in case of a conflict between the revenue department and an importer, the Finance Ministry has said.

In an instruction to chief commissioners, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs said customs field officers should be sensitive to applying CAROTAR and maintain consistency with the provisions of relevant trade agreement or its Rules of Origin.

Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) or CAROTAR Rules, came into effect from September 21, 2020. It empowers officers to seek further information from an importer, consistent with the trade agreement, in case the officer has reasons to believe that the country-of-origin criteria have not been met. Where the importer fails to provide the requisite information, the officer can make further verification consistent with the trade agreement.

Rupee slides 20 paise against dollar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

The rupee depreciated by 20 paise to close at 79.84 against the U.S. dollar on Friday amid a strengthening greenback overseas.

Forex traders said the U.S. dollar index witnessed an upturn after comments from U.S. Federal Reserve officials over the quantum of rate increases weighed on investor sentiments.

The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against six currencies, rose 0.18% to 107.67.

Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities, said the rupee depreciated amid stronger dollar index and risk-averse sentiments. "Low bond price and foreign fund outflows also weighed on the rupee."

'Hackers eyeing USB drives to circumvent network defences'

'Threats targeting removable media rose to 52% from 32%'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

About 52% of cyberthreats that took place in 2021 were specifically designed to target removable media including CDs, DVDs, Blu-Ray disks, diskettes and USB drives, according to the 2022 Honeywell Industrial Cybersecurity USB Threat Report released on Friday.

The figure was 32% in the previous year and 19% the year before that, indicating removable media-centric threats had reached a dangerously high level, Honeywell said.

"The new report indicates that adversaries are deliberately leveraging removable media as an initial attack vector to establish remote connectivity, exfiltrate data, and establish command and control," said Jeff Zindel, VP and general manager, Honeywell Connected Enterprise Cybersecurity.

According to Honeywell's study, hackers have been taking advantage of USB removable media to circumvent network defences and bypass the air gaps – a network security measure – upon which many of these facilities depend for protection.

'Trojans, a top concern'

Along with USB attacks, the research also found that 'trojans' remained a top concern because of their potential to cause severe disruption to industrial infrastructure, comprising 76% of the malware detected.

The study was based on cybersecurity threat data collected from hundreds of industrial facilities globally, including the ones in India, during calendar year 2021.

April-July gold imports rise 6.4% to $13 bn

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

India's gold imports rose 6.4% to $12.9 billion during April-July this fiscal due to healthy demand, according to government data. Imports were $12 billion a year earlier.

In July 2022, however, imports of the precious metal – which have a bearing on the country's Current Account Deficit – fell sharply by 43.6% to $2.4 billion, as per the latest data released by the Commerce Ministry.

An increase in gold and oil imports during the first four months of this financial year contributed to a record trade deficit of $30 billion, compared with $10.63 billion in the April-July period of last year.

'Indian smartwatch market grew fourfold in Q2 2022'

Growth was aided by introduction of new products: report

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The smartwatch market in India grew more than fourfold in Q2 2022, driven by growing consumer interest in smartwatches as an accessory and as a fitness tracker, according to a report from Counterpoint Research.

The introduction of new products during the quarter also aided the growth.

"We saw over 300 smartwatch models selling this quarter, the highest ever number," Research Analyst Harshit Rastogi said. "The top three brands combined offered 75 different models.

The quarter saw over 50 new launches from major brands," he added.

He added low-end smartwatches continued to attract more competition as half of the total models are in the sub-₹3,500 retail price band. "Brands are pushing various models as consumers look for different options to choose from, including dial size and display. The colours and materials used continue to play a huge role in the purchase decision."

As per the report, FireBoltt led the market with 27.7% market share, followed by Noise with 26% and boAt with 19.5%.

"India's Smartwatch shipments grew by 4x annually in Q2 2022," said Senior Research Analyst Anshika Jain.

"Fire Boltt and Noise captured more than half of the total smartwatch market. The market is very dynamic," she added.

Adani arm to buy DB Power for ₹7,017 cr.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Adani Power on Friday said it will acquire DB Power Ltd., which owns and operates a 2 x 600 MW thermal power plant at district Janjgir Champa in Chhattisgarh, at an enterprise value of ₹7,017 crore for cash consideration.

DB Power has long- and medium-term power purchase agreements for 923.5 MW of its capacity and has been operating its facilities profitably, it added.

The turnover of DB Power during last three financial years was ₹3,488 crore (FY2021-22); ₹2,930 crore (FY2020-21) and ₹3,126 crore (for FY2019-20).

CEAT plans to cover small towns, says COO

Tyre firm may double outlets to 1 lakh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

CEAT Ltd. plans to expand its tyre sales network in places with a population of 5,000-10,000 via its FMCG style of distribution, aiming to double outlets to 1 lakh in two to three years, COO Arnab Banerjee said.

The company, which has successfully partnered kirana store operators, small automobile spare-parts sellers and puncture repair shops, feels that it has more or less 'saturated' places with 25,000 population and there is a need to go to even lesser populated areas for two-wheeler tyres.

Arnab Banerjee

"We have a total of 50,000 outlets, which we plan to double to 1,00,000 in the coming years," he said. "For that, one huge operation is going on for further improving penetration. We think we have (reached) saturation in places of up to 25,000 population but below 25,000 there are gaps," Mr. Banerjee added.

Intercept, DRL settle Ocaliva patent dispute

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
HYDERABAD

Intercept Pharmaceuticals Inc. has said it has entered into a settlement agreement with Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, resolving the previously disclosed patent litigation to market a generic version of Ocaliva (obeticholic acid) 5 mg and 10 mg tablets in the U.S.

"Intercept granted Dr. Reddy's a non-exclusive, non-sublicensable, non-transferable, royalty-free licence to commercialise its generic version of Ocaliva (a liver disease drug) in the U.S., commencing October 26, 2035, or earlier, under certain circumstances," Intercept said in a filing.

SPORT

Bhutia to run for AIFF president

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA
KOLKATA

Hailing the churning process initiated in the All India Football Federation (AIFF) by the Supreme Court as an opportunity to rectify the system, India's football icon Bhaichung Bhutia submitted his nomination for the national federation president's post on Friday.

Bhutia's is the most prominent name among the seven applications filed so far. The others in the fray are Kalyan Chowbey, Manvinder Singh, Shaji Prabhakaran, N.A. Harris, Eugeneson Lyngdoh and Valanka Alemao.

With his name doing the rounds ever since the elections were announced by the Supreme Court-appointed CoA, the former India captain finally accepted demands from his fraternity and submitted his papers.

Bhutia. • FILE PHOTO: K.R. DEEPAK

"We, as former footballers, would love to offer and also contribute to the development of Indian football. Since the time the Federation was formed, there have been very few footballers in the administration," Bhutia told *The Hindu*.

"I think there's not much of a voice for footballers in the development of the game. So, this is an opportunity," he said.

Trafalgar claims the feature event

BENGALURU: James Mckeown trained Trafalgar (S. Saqlain up) won the Leading Stud Stakes, the feature event of the races held here on Friday (Aug 19). The winner is owned by Mr. Joydeep Datta Gupta, Mr. Jayanta Mukhopadhyay, Mr. Sanjay Datta Gupta & Mr. Jeet Banerjee & Mr. Achuthan Siddarth & Mr. Marthand Singh Mahindra & Mr. Shouryabrata Mondal Sigma Scan System Pvt Ltd.

LEADING INDIVIDUAL OWNER: M/s. S.K.J. Thoroughbreds Pvt. Ltd.

LEADING JOINT OWNERS: Mr. Vijay B. Shirke, Mrs. Vijay B. Shirke, Mehra Stud & Agrl Farm Pt Ltd, Mrs Liane Milan Luthria, Five Stars Shippng Co Pvt Ltd.

CHAMPION TRAINER: Prasana Kumar (13 wins) **CHAMPION JOCKEY:** Akshay Kumar (20 wins)

CHAMPION JOCKEY CLAIMING ALLOWANCE: G.Vivek (5 wins)

LEADING STUD FARM: Usha (Bred 21 wins)

HORSE OF THE SEASON: Only You (2 wins and 2 second) **CHAMPION HORSE:** Supernatural: ₹12,742,600.

THE RESULTS

1. HAPPY VALLEY PLATE (1,600m), rated 00 to 25: **SUNSHINE PRINCE** (S. John) 1, Eco Friendly (Arvind K) 2, Love (Rayan) 3 and Sekhmet (R. Pradeep) 4. Not run: Belli Deepa. 1-3/4, 8-1/2 and 1-1/2. Im 39.14s. ₹26 (w), 112, 19 and 24 (p), SHP: 38, THP: 48, FP: 61, Q: 33, Trinella: 349 and 271, Exacta: 5,233 and 2,492. Favourite: Sunshine Prince.

Owner: Mr. Joydeep Datta Gupta. Trainer: Arjun Mangalorkar.

2. WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY DAY CUP (Div. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over: **OSIRIS** (Arvind K) 1, Kings Speech (Saddam H) 2, Capri Girl (Akshay K) 3 and Embosom (L.A. Rozario) 4. 1, Hd and Lnk. Im 26.04s. ₹38 (w), 15, 19 and 18 (p), SHP: 67, THP: 60, FP: 317, Q: 231, Trinella: 1,208 and 568, Exacta: 22,841 and 9,789. Favourite: Osiris.

Owners: Mr. M. Lakshminarayana, Mr. M. Venkatarama & Mr. R.N. Vijaya Kumar. Trainer: Sharat Kumar.

3. CHAMPION JOCKEY STAKES (1,200m), rated 20 to 45: **PRIME ABBESS** (Sandesh) 1, Sheer Bliss (Suraj) 2, The Golden Dream (Arvind K) 3 and Inexhaustible (Nazerul) 4. 3-3/4, 5-1/4 and Snk. Im 12.59s. ₹14 (w), 10, 15 and 18 (p), SHP: 25, THP: 37, FP: 28, Q: 24, Trinella: 117 and 41, Exacta: 346 and 158. Favourite: Prime Abbess.

Owner: Mr. C. Aryama Sundaram. Trainer: S. Padmanabhan.

4. CHAMPION TRAINER STAKES (1,600m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms): **SHAMROCK** (Suraj) 1, Salento (Akshay K) 2, Trevalius (T.S. Jodha) 3 and Triumphant (Trevor) 4. 2-3/4, 5 and 1-1/2. Im 35.95s. ₹15 (w), 11, 20 and 25 (p), SHP: 49, THP: 44, FP: 54, Q: 40, Trinella: 243 and 104, Exacta: 552 and 240. Favourite: Shamrock.

Owners: Mr. M. Ravi, Mr. Daulat Chhabria, Mr. K. Kaliyaperumal and Mrs. R. Chellam. Trainer: S. Narredu.

5. LEADING STUD STAKES (1,400m), rated 80 & above: **TRAFALGAR** (S. Saqlain) 1, The Sovereign Orb (Akshay K) 2, Jake (Hindu S) 3 and Apsara Star (Salman K) 4. Hd, 2-1/2 and 2-1/4. Im 24.10s. ₹36 (w), 17 and 14 (p), SHP: 30, THP: 44, FP: 110, Q: 65, Trinella: 171 and 111, Exacta: 1,076 and 884. Favourite: The Sovereign Orb.

Owners: Mr. Joydeep Datta Gupta, Mr. Jayanta Mukhopadhyay, Mr. Sanjay Datta Gupta & Mr. Jeet Banerjee & Mr. Achuthan Siddarth & Mr. Marthand Singh Mahindra & Mr. Shouryabrata Mondal Sigma Scan System Pvt Ltd. Trainer: James Mckeown.

6. LEADING OWNER STAKES (1,200m), rated 40 to 65: **YUKAN** (Trevor) 1, Star Glory (Suraj) 2, Elusive Girl (J.H. Arul) 3 and Mystic Eye (Akshay K) 4. 2-1/4, 2-1/4 and 2. Im 11.58s. ₹26 (w), 10, 13 and 25 (p), SHP: 30, THP: 50, FP: 53, Q: 26, Trinella: 358 and 278, Exacta: 777 and 389. Favourite: Star Glory.

Owners: Mr. Marthand Singh Mahindra, Mrs. Rina Mahindra, Mr. P. Prabhakar Reddy and Mr. Rama Seshu Eyunni. Trainer: S. Attaollahi.

7. WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY DAY CUP (Div. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over: **MEMORITER** (G. Vivek) 1, Winmylove (S. John) 2, Aberne (J.H. Arul) 3 and Lycurgus (Vaibhav) 4. Not run: Southern Power. 3/4, 1 and 1/2. Im 25.44s. ₹31 (w), 18, 11 and 24 (p), SHP: 30, THP: 61, FP: 76, Q: 44, Trinella: 338 and 233, Exacta: 2,939 and 4,198. Favourite: Winmylove. Owner: Mr. S.T. Kalappa. Trainer: Azhar Ali.

Jackpot: ₹1,461 (56 tkts); Runner-up: 97 (361 tkts); Treble (i): 80 (89 tkts); (ii): 941 (11 tkts).

RACING

Scramjet should make amends in the Belmont Prince Plate

HYDERABAD: The five-year-old gelding Scramjet, who ran second in his last start, should make amends in the (Class I) Belmont Prince Plate, the chief event of Saturday's (Aug. 20) races.

1 RED RUM PLATE (1,200m), (Terms) Unraced Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II) – 2.05 p.m.: 1. My Grandeur (8) Surya Prakash 56, 2. Orin Swift (9) A.A. Vikrant 56, 3. Strauss (6) Suraj Narredu 56, 4. Elusive (4) Akshay Kumar 54.5, 5. Hoping Cloud (7) Mohit Singh 54.5, 6. Life's Living (3) Kiran Naidu 54.5, 7. Malahat (2) P. Vikram 54.5, 8. Mountain Rose (11) B. Nikhil 54.5, 9. Purple Rock (5) Gaurav Singh 54.5, 10. Sweet Whisper (10) Nakhat Singh 54.5 and 11. Temptations (1) Ajeeth Kumar 54.5.

1. STRAUSS, 2. ELUSIVE, 3. TEMPTATIONS

2 HIMAYAT SAGAR CUP (DIV. II) (1,100m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 2.40: 1. Thunder Road (10) B. Nikhil 61, 2. Malibu (5) Akshay Kumar 59.5, 3. Silk (9) Mukesh Kumar 59, 4. Top Diamond (1) Ajeeth Kumar 58.5, 5. Blue Label (7) R.S. Jodha 55.5, 6. Ashwa Sultan (4) P. Vikram 54, 7. Theo's Choice (3) P. Sai Kumar 54, 8. I Am Superman (6) D.S. Deora 53, 9. Briar Ridge (2) Santosh Raj 52.5 and 10. Akash (8) P. Gaddam 50.

1. MALIBU, 2. SILK, 3. TOP DIAMOND

3 KARIMNAGAR PLATE (1,400m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 3.15: 1. Best Buddy (1) R.S. Jodha 60, 2. sSouthern Act (8) Md. Ismail 60, 3. Pleroma (4) Akshay Kumar 59, 4. Pinatubo (5) Mohit Singh 58.5, 5. Stag's Leap (3) Suraj Narredu 58, 6. Aiza (6) Aneel 55.5, 7. Wot's Up Jay (9) Rafique Sk. 55.5, 8. Forever Bond (2) Surya Prakash 54.5, 9. Flamingo Fame (7) Kiran Naidu 54 and 10. Glimmer Of Hope (10) P. Vikram 54.

1. PLEROMA, 2. AIZA, 3. FOREVER BOND

4 RANI RUDRAMA DEVI CUP (1,600m), rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 3.50: 1. Ashwa Raudee (5) Mukesh Kumar 60, 2. City Of Blessing (7) Gaurav Singh 60, 3. Akido (3) Kuldeep Singh 58, 4. N R I Infinity (2) B.R. Kumar 57.5, 5. Show Me Your Walk (6) Akshay Kumar 55.5, 6. Icicle (8) Suraj Narredu 55, 7. Just Incredible (9) Aneel 54, 8. Painted Apache (1) Ajeeth Kumar 53 and 9. Papal Decree (4) Rafique Sk. 53.

1. ICICLE, 2. ASHWA RAUDEE, 3. CITY OF BLESSING

5 BELMONT PRINCE PLATE (1,600m), rated 80 and above (Cat. I) – 4.25: 1. Hartnell (2) Mohit Singh 62, 2. Knight Templar (3) Akshay Kumar 54, 3. Top Secret (6) D.S. Deora 52.5, 4. Scramjet (5) P. Sai Kumar 51.5, 5. Premier Action (1) Afroz Khan 50 and 6. Saffron Art (4) Gaurav Singh 50.

1. SCRAMJET, 2. KNIGHT TEMPLAR

6 GRAND PARADE PLATE (1,400m), Maiden, 3-y-o & upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 5.00: 1. Deam Station (6) Abhay Singh 60, 2. Blast In Class (7) Kiran Naidu 58.5, 3. Cash Register (2) Ajeeth Kumar 57.5, 4. Doe A Deer (8) Suraj Narredu 57.5, 5. Plethora (1) Nakhat Singh 57.5, 6. Silver Lining (4) B. Nikhil 57.5, 7. Turning Wheel (5) Akshay Kumar 57.5, 8. Exclusive Luck (9) Md. Ismail 57, 9. Fly Tothe Stars (10) Afroz Khan 57 and 10. Ashwa Migsun (3) Mukesh Kumar 56.5.

1. CASH REGISTER, 2. DOE A DEER, 3. TURNING WHEEL

Day's Best: ICICLE

Jackpot: 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6.

Mini Jackpot: 3, 4, 5 & 6.

Treble: (i) 1, 2 & 3, (ii) 4, 5 & 6.

Tanala: All races.

MRG-BGE

Men In Blue set to recalibrate goals

Rahul needs time at the crease, the team bigger challenges in remaining ODIs ahead of Asia Cup

INDIA IN ZIM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
HARARE

Skipper K.L. Rahul will hope to get some valuable batting time as the Indian team recalibrates its goals to create some challenges for itself in the remaining two One-Day Internationals against Zimbabwe.

The gulf between the teams means these bilateral contests are bound to be lopsided, but the bigger goal for the 'Men In Blue' will be to push the limits. The immediate target will be to bat first if Rahul wins the toss in Saturday's second ODI.

The early start on a bouncy track and sufficient nip in the air would pose some challenge for the batters. Deepak Chahar pointed out after the first game that there was little help for the bowlers during the second session and the only time there's some challenge for batters is the first hour of the match.

While 'Captain Rahul' showed his 'elder statesmanship' in letting Shikhar Dhawan and Shubman Gill open in the first game, 'Batter Rahul' will need to get his priorities right before the Asia Cup.

He needs to adapt to Team India's "attack at all costs from the onset" philosophy and that cannot happen overnight.

Similarly Deepak Hooda, if given a chance to bat up the order, can also build his confidence. Then there is Sanju Samson. If he plays at No. 4, it gives him scope to build an innings of significance.

Acting head coach V.V.S. Laxman, as much as he would like to experiment, would want to win the series first before giving some of the reserves a chance.

Therefore a left-right combination of Ishan Kishan and Rahul wouldn't be a bad option in case Dhawan's forearm injury, sustained on Thursday, turns out to be serious.

Winning the series is important, but creating different kind of situations and testing the game awareness of the younger lot should be on the checklist.

Chahar bowling seven overs at a stretch is a good sign and indicator that he is gradually building up his workload. Similarly Prasidh Krishna would like to try a few more variations and Mohammed Siraj won't mind a few more wickets.

Just like batting in the morning could be a challenge, bowling in the warm afternoon conditions with no lateral movement on offer would test the character of pacers and their improvisation skills.

Spoiling for a fight! Team India, it would seem, could have done with stronger opposition ahead of upcoming major assignments. •AP

The teams (from):

India: K.L. Rahul (Capt.), Shikhar Dhawan (Vice-Capt.), Ruturaj Gaikwad, Shubman Gill, Deepak Hooda, Rahul Tripathi, Ishan Kishan (wk), Sanju Samson (wk), Shardul Thakur, Kuldeep Yadav, Axar Patel, Avesh Khan, Prasidh Krishna, Mohd. Siraj, Deepak Chahar and Shahbaz Ahmed.

Zimbabwe: Regis Chakabva (Capt.), Ryan Burl, Tanaka Chivanga, Bradley Evans, Luke Jongwe, Innocent Kaia, Takudzwanashe Kaitano, Clive Madande, Wessly Madhevere, Tadiwanashe Marumani, John Masara, Tony Munyonga, Richard Ngarava, Victor Nyauchi, Sikandar Raza, Milton Shumba and Donald Tiripano.

Match starts at 12.45 p.m. IST.

Navgire makes the cut for England tour

Jhulan returns to the ODI squad

IND IN ENG

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOZHIKODE

Kiran Navgire has made it to the Indian T20I squad for the bilateral series in England, starting on September 10. The uncapped hard-hitting batter from Maharashtra had made a big impact at the Women's T20 Challenge in Pune recently.

Veteran seamer Jhulan Goswami has returned to the ODI squad. Batter Jemimah Rodrigues, who was ruled out of The Hundred owing to a wrist injury, has been included in both squads. The Harmanpreet Kaur-led side will play three ODIs and as many T20Is.

Meanwhile, England suffered a setback when captain Heather Knight was ruled out of the series after undergoing a hip surgery.

The squads:

ODIs: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana, Shafali Verma, S. Meghana, Deepti Sharma, Taniya Bhatia, Yastika Bhatia, Pooja Vastrakar, Sneh Rana, Renuka Singh, Meghna Singh, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Harleen Deol, D. Hemalatha, Simran Bahadur, Jhulan Goswami and Jemimah Rodrigues.

T20Is: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana, Shafali Verma, Deepti Sharma, Pooja Vastrakar, Jemimah Rodrigues, Sneh Rana, Renuka Singh, Meghna Singh, Radha Yadav, S. Meghana, Taniy Bhatia, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, D. Hemalatha, Simran Bahadur, Richa Ghosh and Kiran Navgire.

The schedule: T20Is: Sept. 10, Durham (11.30 p.m.), Sept. 13 (Derby) and Sept. 15 (Bristol), both 11 p.m.; **ODIs:** Sept. 18, Hove (3.30 p.m.), Sept. 21, Canterbury (6 p.m.) and Sept. 24, Lord's (3.30 p.m.).

All times IST.

Kiran Navgire. •FILE PHOTO

NZ names 'A' team for India tour

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
CHRISTCHURCH

New Zealand on Friday announced a strong 'A' squad, including seven cricketers with international experience, for its upcoming tour of India featuring both red and white ball series in September.

It will be the first time that a New Zealand-A side will be playing overseas since the 2018 tour to the United Arab Emirates, where it played against Pakistan-A.

The India tour will feature three four-day matches and three one-day matches in Bengaluru and Chennai. New Zealand-A last toured India in 2017.

The squad: Tom Bruce (Capt.), Robbie O'Donnell (Capt.), Chad Bowes, Joe Carter, Mark Chapman, Dane Cleaver (wk), Jacob Duffy, Matt Fisher, Cameron Fletcher (wk), Ben Lister, Rachin Ravindra, Michael Rippon, Sean Solia, Logan van Beek and Joe Walker.

The schedule: Four-day games: Sept. 1-4, Sept. 8-11and Sept. 15-18 (all at Bengaluru).

One-day matches: Sept. 22, 25 and 27 (all at Chennai).

England crashes to innings defeat

Nortje strikes thrice to rip through the heart of the host's batting

SA IN ENG

REUTERS
LONDON

South Africa skittled England out for 149 on Friday to win the first Test by an innings and 12 runs inside three days at Lord's and go 1-0 up in the three-match series.

It proved an emphatic triumph for South Africa's bowling attack, which nullified the threat of England's new attacking batting 'Bazball' approach, forging a 161-run first innings lead before dismissing the hosts in only 37.4 second innings overs.

Anrich Nortje took three wickets in the space of 10 balls to rip through the heart of the host line-up, removing Jonny Bairstow (18), opener Alex Lees (35) and Ben Foakes (0) quickly.

South Africa had begun the day on 289 for seven in response to England's first innings tally of 165 and was bowled out for 326 in the first innings.

Telling spell: Nortje was at his menacing best. •GETTY IMAGES

SCOREBOARD

England — 1st innings: 165.

South Africa — 1st innings: Dean Elgar b Anderson 47, Sarel Erwee c Foakes b Stokes 73, Keegan Petersen c Bairstow b Potts 24, Aiden Markram c Foakes b Leach 16, Rassie van der Dussen lbw b Stokes 19, Marco Jansen c Crawley b Broad 48, Kyle Verreynne c Foakes b Broad 11, Keshav Maharaj c Potts b Stokes 41, Kagiso Rabada c Broad b Potts 3, Anrich Nortje (not out) 28, Lungi Ngidi c Bairstow b Broad 0; Extras (b-1, lb-11, nb-3, w-1): 16; Total (in 89.1 overs): 326.

Fall of wickets: 1-85, 2-138, 3-160, 4-187, 5-192, 6-210, 7-282, 8-289, 9-318.

England bowling: Anderson 18-3-51-1, Broad 19.1-3-71-3, Potts 20-2-79-2, Stokes 18-3-71-3, Leach 14-3-42-1.

England — 2nd innings: Alex Lees c Verreynne b Nortje 35, Zak Crawley lbw b Maharaj 13, Ollie Pope lbw b Maharaj 5, Joe Root c Markram b Ngidi 6, Jonny Bairstow c Verreynne b Nortje 18, Ben Stokes c Maharaj b Rabada 20, Ben Foakes c Verreynne b Nortje 0, Stuart Broad c Elgar b Rabada 35, Matthew Potts b Jansen 1, Jack Leach (not out) 0, James Anderson b Jansen 1; Extras (b-5, lb-7, nb-3): 15; Total (in 37.4 overs): 149.

Fall of wickets: 1-20, 2-38, 3-57, 4-81, 5-86, 6-86, 7-141, 8-146, 9-146.

South Africa bowling: Rabada 8-2-27-2, Ngidi 7-2-15-1, Maharaj 12-0-35-2, Nortje 7-1-47-3, Jansen 3.4-0-13-2.

Man-of-the-Match: Rabada.

South Africa won by an innings and 12 runs to take a 1-0 lead in three-match series.

Second Test: Aug. 25-29, Manchester.

Salem, Coimbatore and Puducherry named hosts

Four-day quarterfinals from Sept. 8

DULEEP TROPHY

S. DINAKAR
CHENNAI

It's official! Late Friday evening, the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association received confirmation of the Duleep Trophy venues from the BCCI.

TNCA secretary R.S. Ramaswamy told *The Hindu* that Salem, Coimbatore and Puducherry had been confirmed as the three venues for the competition beginning on September 8.

He said the two four-day quarterfinals would be held simultaneously from September 8 at Salem and Puducherry.

This will be followed by a three-day break before the start of the four-day semifinals at Salem and Coimbatore. Then after another three-day gap, the five-day final will get underway.

Ramaswamy said a zoom call was scheduled between the various stakeholders on Saturday.

The six zonal teams – North-Eastern Zone is an addition to the five regular zones – he said, would be selected on August 26.

Who will get the byes?

It remains to be seen which teams receive byes since there is no immediate record at hand to pick the two best teams over the past few years.

Duleep is returning after a three-year break. And even then it was played as India, Red, Green, Blue and so on.

Would the BCCI go way back to the last occasion when Duleep was played on a zonal basis and give semifinal byes to the winner and the runner-up then?

"These things will be discussed and we will arrive at a solution," Ramaswamy said.

Sriram to don Bangladesh role

Will be the team's Technical Consultant for Asia Cup

S. DINAKAR
CHENNAI

Sridharan Sriram has been appointed Technical Consultant of the Bangladesh cricket team for the Asia Cup in the UAE and the ICC World T20 in Australia, later this year.

The 46-year-old Sriram will be working in tandem with Bangladesh head coach Russell Domingo.

Sriram, who represented India in eight ODIs and made 9,539 First Class runs at a whopping 52.99, finished a seven-year stint in the Australian coaching team.

He started his Australian tenure as a Spin Bowling consultant and became the Assistant coach of the star-studded side.

Sriram's experience in Australia and its conditions was a major factor in him getting the Bangladesh job.

The quietly efficient Sriram, who has worked with various IPL franchises, is tipped to become Bangladesh's full-time coach in T20 cricket after the World T20.

Sriram. •FILE PHOTO

Gukesh is World No. 18

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

D. Gukesh continued his relentless climb in the world rankings after scoring a hat-trick of wins in the ongoing Turkish Isbank Chess Super League in Ankara on Thursday.

On a roll

Playing on the top board for third-round leader Turkish Airlines Sports Club, Gukesh defeated Grandmasters Aryan Gholami (2507), Andrey Esipenko (2682) and Vahap Sanal (2574) to reach World No. 18 in live rankings and 2735.9 as per the live ratings.

The 16-year-old Gukesh gained 10 rating points and six places from the time he finished the Chess Olympiad with twin medals.

As things stand, the country's youngest Grandmaster trails 12th-ranked Viswanathan Anand (2756) by around 20 points and leads the third-placed P. Harikrishna by 19 points.

India has five players in the top-35 of world rankings and eight players in the top-90.

Arjun goes past Vidit

Arjun (2710.4) went past the fourth-placed Vidit Gujrathi (2710.3), moving closer to Harikrishna (2716.2).

Praggnanandhaa (2675.5) and Nihal Sarin (2671.5), with live rankings of 66 and 69, are targeting the coveted 2700-rating barrier.

Gukesh. •B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Composed Pragg outwits Aronian

RAKESH RAO

Surviving some anxious moments in the fourth rapid game, R. Praggnanandhaa continued his dream run by taking down fancied Levon Aronian 3-1 to match Magnus Carlsen's tally of 12/12 points after four rounds of the $210,000 FTX Crypto Cup rapid chess tournament in Miami on Thursday.

As a result, for the fourth straight day, Praggnanandhaa added $7500 winning in the rapid games, without needing the tie-break games in blitz and Armageddon.

In the other matches, Carlsen (Norway) defeated Le Quang Liam (Vietnam) 3-1, third-placed Alireza Firouzja (France) overcame Jan-Krzysztof Duda (Poland) 2.5-1.5 and Anish Giri (Netherlands) subdued last-man Hans Niemann (USA) 2.5-1.5.

With three rounds to go, the leaders enjoyed a four-point lead over Firouzja.

Dream run: Praggnanandhaa continues to make waves at the FTX Crypto Cup in Miami. •FILE PHOTO: B. VELANKANNI RAJ

"I am happy with the result but not the quality of my play," was Praggnanandhaa's initial remarks after escaping to victory in the fourth rapid game following a late blunder from Aronian.

After two drawn games, Aronian misplayed the Grunfeld as early as on the 10th move and Praggnanandhaa duly trapped his queen. Levon's torture ended on the 34th move with his resignation. In the fourth, Praggnanandhaa sacrificed two pawns and a knight before being a rook down in his bid to keep the pressure on the rival king. Aronian escaped to reach a winning position but faltered and resigned on the 44th move.

Sudeva and Blasters in a 1-1 draw

Nemil's strike gives FC Goa a win over Indian Air Force

DURAND CUP

Y.B. SARANGI

Sudeva Delhi and Kerala Blasters played out a 1-1 draw in their opening Group-D encounter in the Durand Cup football tournament at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium in Guwahati on Friday.

Muhammad Ajsal put Blasters in the lead in the 42nd, while Mangku Kuki scored Sudeva's equaliser three minutes later.

Displaying strong man-to-man marking, Sudeva's midfield showed good control and its defence denied the Blasters forwards for most part of the opening half.

The quick-footed Sudeva players created several chances, but could not make the most of those due to weak finishing. Karthik Panicker's effort was the closest but he could not beat Blasters 'keeper Sachin Suresh from close range in the eighth minute.

Blasters created opportunities by employing the aerial balls and through passes. One such move fetched it the lead against the run of the play.

Gourav Kankonkar sent a through ball and Ajsal scored from just outside the box to beat Sudeva custodian Kabir Kohli.

Blasters' happiness was short-lived as Kuki utilised Basit Bhat's accurate throw-in from the right. Kuki made space to get into the box before lobbing it over Sachin to draw parity before the half-time.

Tiring legs and umpteen cramps slowed down the pace considerably in the second half as the two sides shared the spoils.

Meanwhile, in Kolkata, defending champion FC Goa beat Indian Air Force by a solitary goal to pick up its first win in Group-A league at the Kishore Bharati Stadium here on Friday.

Muhammed Nemil got the only goal of the match for Goa, which preserved the early lead as the Airmen failed to find the target.

Having lost the first match against Mohammedan Sporting, the win kept Goa in the hunt for a quarterfinal berth.

The results:

At Guwahati: Sudeva Delhi 1 (Kuki 45) drew with Kerala Blasters 1 (Ajsal 42).

At Kolkata: FC Goa 1 (Muhammed Nemil 8) bt Indian Air Force 0.

Joy shortlived: Ajsal put Blasters ahead in the 42nd minute before Sudeva equalised three minutes later. •RITU RAJ KONWAR

Golden run by Antim

WRESTLING

SPORTS BUREAU

Antim secured the women's 53kg title, while Tokyo Olympian Sonam Malik took the silver in 62kg at the World under-20 wrestling championships in Sofia, Bulgaria, on Friday.

Antim recorded a comprehensive 8-0 win over Kazakhstan's Altyn Shagayeva in the final. The Indian won points through four takedowns, including three in the first period.

Antim defeated Germany's Amory Andrich 11-0, Ayaka Kimura of Japan by fall and Natalia Klivchutska of Ukraine 11-2 in the semifinals.

Sonam was pinned by Japan's Nonoka Ozaki within a minute in the final. Earlier, the Indian, who had recovered from injury, got past Kazakhstan's Tynys Dubek 10-0, Adaugo Nwachukwu of the USA 5-5 and Kyrgyzstan's Bermet Nuridin by fall in the semifinal.

Sito (57kg) bagged a bronze.

On Thursday, Priya Malik (76kg) took the silver and Priyanshi Prajapat (50kg) the bronze. Priyanka set up a title clash with Japan's Mahiro Yoshitake in the 65kg final.

Quick Guns, Juggernauts register victories

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PUNE

Skipper Amit Patil and all-rounder Ramji Kashyap produced brilliant shows as Chennai Quick Guns defeated Mumbai Khiladis by 20 points in the inaugural edition of Ultimate Kho Kho on Friday.

Amit recorded three minutes and 41 seconds in defence while Ramji scored 14 points by dismissing six opposition defenders.

Riding on Wazir Subhasis Santra's sensational performance in the attack, Odisha Juggernauts handed a 19-point defeat to Rajasthan Warriors.

Santra scored 14 points in the attack by dismissing five Warriors defenders.

LIVE TELECAST

Grand Prix Badminton League: Eurosport (SD & HD), 12.30 p.m.
Zimbabwe vs India: 2nd ODI, Sony Six (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 12.45 p.m.
KSCA Maharaja Trophy T20: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Durand Cup: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1 & 2 (SD & HD), Star Sports 3 & Hotstar, 5 p.m., 7.30 p.m. & 10 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 7 p.m. & 10 p.m.
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 9 p.m., 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Sunday)
Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 10 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. (Sunday)

IN BRIEF

Lewandowski's watch snatched in fan press

BARCELONA

Barcelona striker Robert Lewandowski had a watch reportedly worth €70,000 snatched from his arm as he arrived for practice on Thursday. He had stopped in front of the club to sign autographs, take photos with fans. AP

A new high for Sumit, Yogesh

The two create new World records at the National Para championships

ATHLETICS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BENGALURU

Tokyo Paralympics champion javelin thrower Sumit Antil and silver medallist discus thrower Yogesh Kathuniya created new world records at the ongoing fourth Indian Open National Para Athletics Championships at the Sri Kanteerava stadium here on Friday.

Sumit created a new world record after hurling the spear to a record distance of 68.62m in his event.

The 24-year-old para athlete's previous world record throw of 68.55m in the F64 category came at the Tokyo Games last year. He also broke the world record thrice during his six attempts.

Yogesh, on the other hand, also created a new world record in the discus throw event with a throw of 48.34m.

A day to remember: Javelin thrower Sumit and discus thrower Yogesh after their stunning performances on Friday. •TWITTER@SAIMEDIA

Sisodia and Shiva Kumar star in Tigers' thumping win

Pandey to the rescue as Mystics weather a top-order collapse to defeat United

MAHARAJA TROPHY

SPORTS REPORTER
BENGALURU

Luvnith Sisodia's whirlwind knock (62, 38b, 6x4, 3x6) and B.U. Shiva Kumar's all-round effort (1/17 and 61 n.o.) carried Hubli Tigers to a thumping eight-wicket win over Shivamogga Strikers in the Maharaja Trophy T20 tournament at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Friday.

Chasing 147, Sisodia and Shiva Kumar knocked off the runs with 16 balls to spare to give Tigers some much-needed relief after the agonising two-run loss to Mysore Warriors on Thursday.

Shivamogga, which was asked to bat first, started well, with B.R. Sharath and Stallin Hoover putting on 78 runs for the first wicket. But the K. Gowtham-led side couldn't capitalise and ended up with a total that proved too easy for Hubli. It was Strikers' seventh loss in eight matches.

In his element: Tigers rode on Luvnith Sisodia's breezy half-century against Strikers. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In the other match, Gulbarga Mystics weathered a top-order collapse to defeat Mangalore United by 28 runs.

An 82-run sixth-wicket partnership between skipper Manish Pandey (58, 40b, 4x4, 2x6) and C.A. Karthik (38, 32b, 3x4, 1x6) saved the day for Mystics, who made 164 after being asked to bat first. For Mangalore, Abhinav Manohar waged a lone-battle scoring a 34-ball 51 (2x4, 3x6).

The scores:

Shivamogga Strikers 146/5 in 20 overs (B.R. Sharath 36, Stallin Hoover 38, S. Chaitanya 32 n.o.) lost to Hubli Tigers 149/2 in 17.2 overs (Luvnith Sisodia 62, B.U. Shiva Kumar 61 n.o.). **MoM:** Shiva Kumar.

Gulbarga Mystics 164/6 in 20 overs (Padikkal 25, Manish Pandey 58, C.A. Karthik 38 n.o.) bt Mangalore United 136 in 18.4 overs (Abhinav Manohar 51, Kushaal Wadhwani 3/48, Karthik 2/9). **MoM:** Karthik.

SNAPSHOTS

SM requests FIFA and AFC to cut some slack

NEW DELHI: The Sports Ministry has requested FIFA and the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) to allow Indian clubs – Sree Gokulam Kerala FC and ATK Mohun Bagan – compete in the tournaments as scheduled despite the ban on AIFF.

With FIFA suspending the All India Football Federation (AIFF) late on Monday, there was chaos as the Gokulam Kerala women's team had already reached Uzbekistan to participate in its second AFC Women's Club Championship.

Manisha first Indian to play Women's CL

Manisha Kalyan became the first Indian footballer to play in the UEFA Women's Champions League when she made her debut for Cypriot club Apollon Ladies FC on Thursday.

The 20-year-old is the fourth Indian woman to sign for an overseas club.

Arjun in sole lead

ABU DHABI: Rarely, a field of 148-players finds a sole leader in three rounds.

Arjun Erigaisi achieved this rare distinction with a third straight victory in the Abu Dhabi Masters chess after facing Croatia's Aleksandar Indijic here late on Thursday.

Among the 26 players sharing the second spot at 2.5 points was young Raunak Sadhwani who held second-seeded Russian Evegeny Tomashevsky.

Arjun stays on top

COIMBATORE: The Delhi duo of Sachin Baisoya and Arjun Prasad shot the best scores (67) but it was Greater Noida's Arjun Sharma who fired a three-under 69 to remain on top after the third round of the Tata Steel PGTI Players' Championship, presented by KGiSL, here on Friday.

Arjun and Shamim Khan (Delhi) were the joint leaders on the second day, but the former knew the time was ripe to step up his game.

He did exactly that by hitting the right shots and staying calm right through his journey to finish at 11-under 205.

By doing so, the 29-year-old not only left Shamim behind, but also kept his hopes alive of clinching his maiden PGTI title.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Kickstart FC finishes on a high

Kickstart FC outclassed Bangalore Eagles FC 3-1 in the final to win the C. Puttaiah Memorial football tournament title at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Friday.

A brace from Nigerian striker Princewill Emeka and a goal from Ryan Wilfred helped Kickstart coast to its first-ever title in this tournament.

Emeka scored the opener in the fifth minute, capitalising on a defensive error.

Eagles' Sanju Kumar had the chance to equalise a few minutes later, but his weak shot was collected by the Kickstart goalkeeper.

Wilfred made it 2-0 with a clean left-footed strike from inside the box.

Eagles fought back through a neat penalty conversion from Banu Prakash. Emeka then put the contest to bed in the 47th minute with a header which gave the Eagles custodian no chance.

The result (final): Kickstart FC 3 (Princewill Emeka 5 & 47, Ryan Wilfred 28) bt Bangalore Eagles 1 (Banu Prakash 45).

Kicking it right: Kickstart won its maiden title in the C. Puttaiah Memorial tournament. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Falcons and Bulls storm to victories

Malnad Falcons and Mandya Bulls scored identical 6-3 wins over their respective rivals – Mangalore Sharks and KGF Wolves – in their second round matches in the Super League Stage of the Grand Prix Badminton League at the KBA courts on Friday.

The results:

Malnad Falcons bt Mangalore Sharks 6-3 [Drithi Yateesh lost Prerana N. Shet (Trump) 13-15, 11-15; Mithun Manjunath & Pruthvi K. Roy (Trump) bt Kushal Raj & C. Sachin 15-5, 15-8; Shamanth Rao Kidiyoor bt H.N. Shashank 15-8, 15-14; Aravind Kongara & Janvi Shetty lost to Raghu Mariswamy & Vijetha Harish 7-15, 5-15; Mithun & Pruthvi K. Roy & Shamanth Rao bt Raghu & Kushal & Sachin 21-10].

Mandya Bulls bt KGF Wolves 6-3 [Ananya Praveen bt Gloria Vinayakumar 15-14, 15-13; Ashith Surya & Sai Pratheek (Trump) bt Prakash Raj & V. Suhas 15-9, 15-13; Anirudh Deshpande lost to Naren S. Iyer 14-15, 14-15; Nitin Sappar & Ruth Misha Vinod lost to Hemanth M. Gowda & P. Amrutha (Trump) 12-15, 15-10, 9-15; Ashith Surya & Sai & M. Madhusudan bt Hemanth & Prakash & Suhas 22-20].

Good knocks by Aarush and Shravan

Aarush Mehrotra (89) and Shravan S. Babu (84 n.o.) helped Friends Union CC (1) defeat Herons CC by six wickets in the KSCA (Group I) under-19 inter-club tournament.

The scores:

Visweswarampuram CC (1) 277/6 in 48 overs (B.V. Aryan 71, Ujwal S. Gowda 105, Manuveer Mahajan 28 n.o.) bt Neptune CC 113 in 41.1 overs (Dev Surana 27, Aaron Nair 3/26). [Match reduced to 48 overs per side because of wet outfield].

Herons CC 253/5 in 50 overs (Rushi B.Shetty 100, Priyal Singh 49, Nikhil George 32 n.o., P. Vikas 26 n.o., Ronith Iyengar 3/31) lost to Friends Union CC (1) 254/4 in 44.3 overs (Aarush Mehrotra 89, Shravan S. Babu 84 n.o.).

Malleswaram Gymkhana 88 in 28.4 overs (Saurav P.Samant 38, V.S. Siddharth 3/23, S.A. Sachin 3/17) lost to Swastic Union CC (2) 93/1 in 8.1 overs (M.B. Shivam 37, S.H. Swaroop 30 n.o.).

Friends Union Cricketers, KGF 205 in 32.4 overs (Shahid Ahmed 28, Yashas Vihaan 29, Farhan Khan 39, Nischith Pai 3/37, S. Vishwa 3/44) lost to Jaidur Cricketers 208/2 in 39.3 overs (M. Abhishek 29, S.N. Siddesh Suggavi 107 n.o., Chirag Sharma 37 n.o.).

Hanumanthnagar CC 111 in 48 overs (Raja Shankar 3/21) lost to Jawahar SC (2) 113/4 in 24 overs (Hardik R.Suvarna 50 n.o., S. Ayush 26 n.o.).

Jawahar SC (1) 329/8 in 50 overs (S.U. Karthik 105, M.P. Samarth 126, Madhav T. Mandayam 54, Arnav Gokhale 4/66) bt Bangalore Occasionals 191 in 42.5 overs (Ashwin Santosh 55, Diwakar Shankar 27, R. Shishir 27, Ashish Nayak 5/33, Hardik Raj 3/38).

Century Cricketers 150 in 44.3 overs (Syon Satvik 80, Dhanush Manu 3/35, Karna Surya Vamshi 3/24) lost to Engrades CC 151/2 in 37.3 overs (K. Krishna Kapil 68 n.o., Karna Surya Vamshi 52 n.o.).

Under-19 women's cricket trials on Aug. 28

The open selection trials will be held on August 28 at the KSCA-B ground to pick three/four teams to participate in the selection matches for the under-19 women during the first or second week of September 2022 in Bengaluru. Girls born on or after September 1, 2003 are eligible.

Those interested are requested to assemble at 8 a.m. on the mentioned date in cricketing attire.

Khelo India junior women's swimming series

The Khelo India junior women's swimming series, a combined initiative between the Swimming Federation of India, Sports Authority of India and Union Sports Ministry aiming to provide regional competition opportunities to girls in the under-18 and 15 categories, will be held at the Ray Swimming Center in Wilson Garden on Saturday and Sunday.

This will be the first round of the competition and will cater to athletes from Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Puducherry.

District-level road cycling c'ship on Aug. 31

The Bangalore District Amateur Cycling Association will organise a district-level road cycling championship on August 31 on the Hassan highway.

The event will serve as a selection trial for the upcoming Karnataka State Road Cycling Championship and Mysore Dasara Games 2022.

Entries close on August 28. Call Chikka Rangaswamy (98443 85510 / 96328 30273).

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